

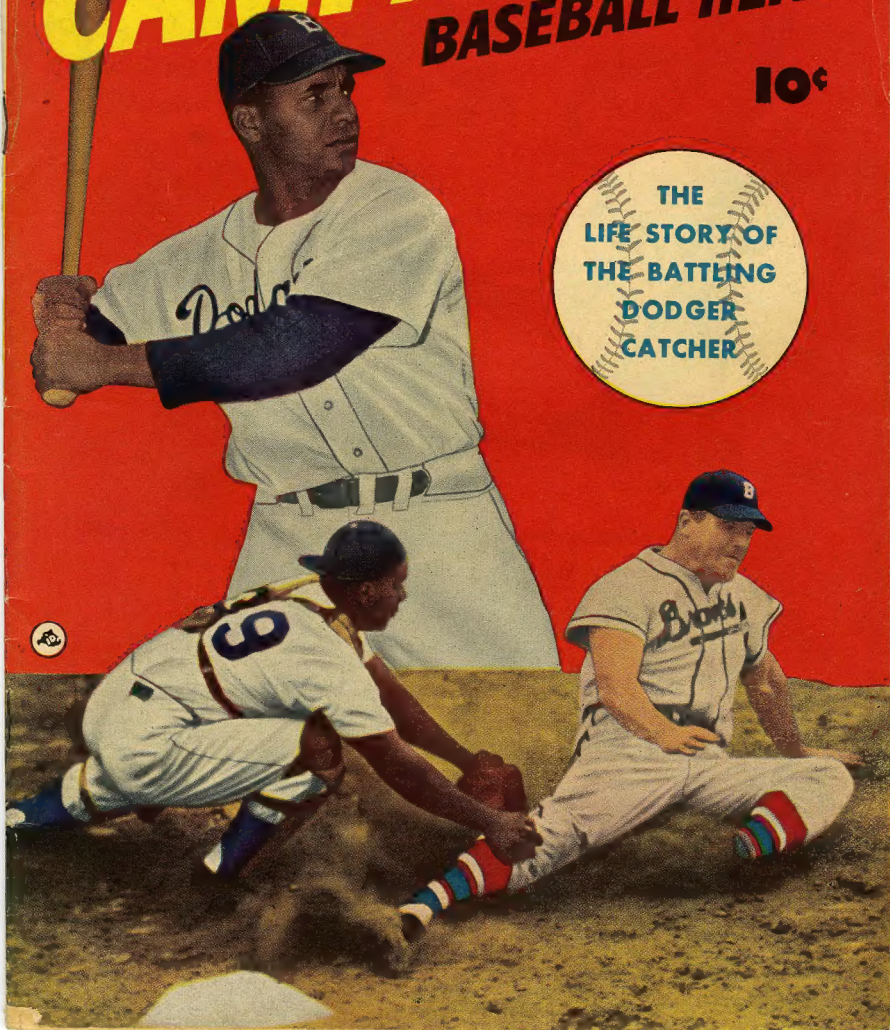
A Fawcett Publication

# ROY CAMPANELLA

## BASEBALL HERO

10¢

THE  
LIFE STORY OF  
THE BATTING  
DODGER  
CATCHER







A PERSONAL MESSAGE FROM

# ROY CAMPANELLA

ACE BACKSTOP  
OF THE BROOKLYN  
DODGERS



To All My Loyal Fans:

When you read this story of my career, you'll find that I'm a pretty happy guy today. I'm in the big leagues--and what's more...I'm a Dodger. But it wasn't always so. There were times when it looked as if I'd never find that pot of gold at the rainbow's end.

But I kept plugging and then, one day, my big break came!

So keep your chin up...stay in there fighting...always doing your best, playing the game hard, clean and intelligently. Keep your eye on the ball! When you make an error don't be afraid to admit it--then learn the reason why you made it so it won't happen again.

And thanks, fans, for the way you helped me with your appreciation and encouragement.

Your friend,

*Roy Campanella*



# ROY CAMPANELLA

## Baseball Hero



Roy Campanella, brainy catcher of the battling Brooklyn Dodgers, is writing baseball history with every game he plays!

A devastating power hitter, a flawless receiver, he has been the spark plug of many ball clubs since he was a high school boy of fifteen.

Dodger pitchers sing his praises! Fans acclaim the thrilling play of champion Campy, the first Negro catcher in the major leagues!

Written by  
CHARLES DEXTER

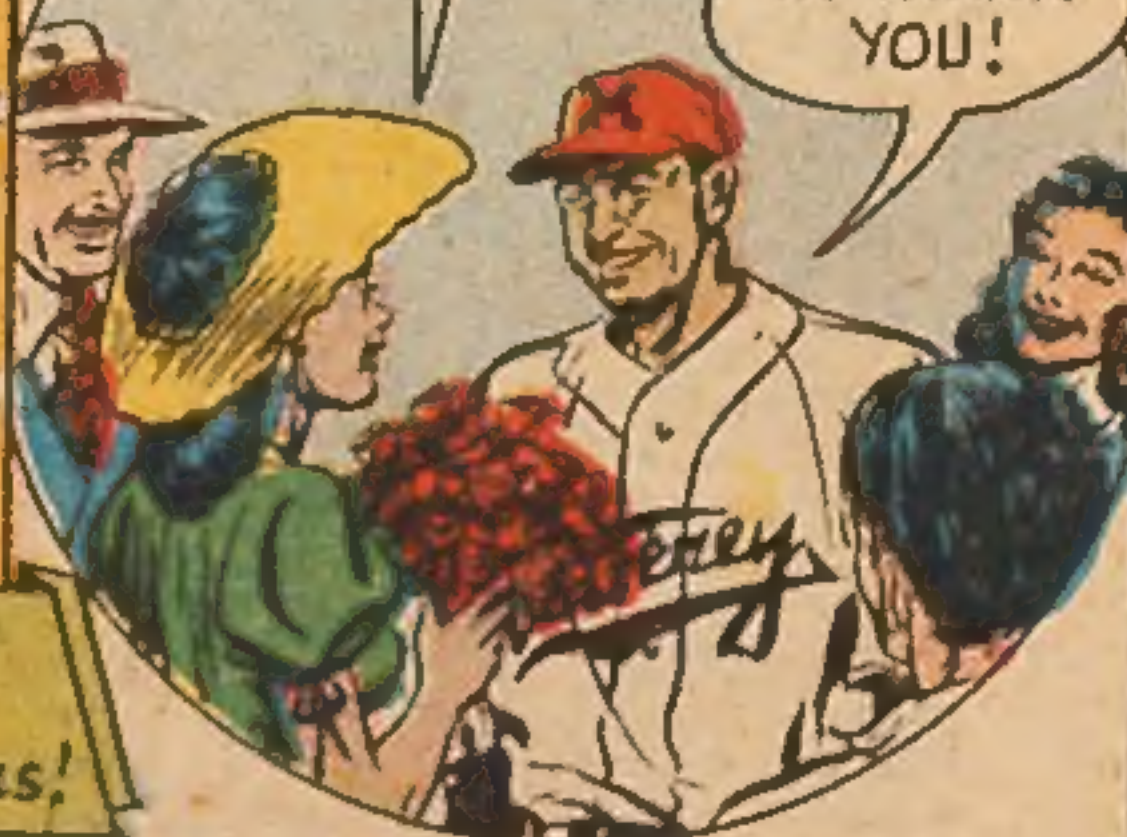


**R**oy was on nine all-star teams in nine Negro National League seasons!

**B**atting .400, Roy led Monterey to its first Mexican League Flag in 1943!

YOU ARE UNO MAGNIFICO HITTER, SEÑOR!

TH-THANK YOU!



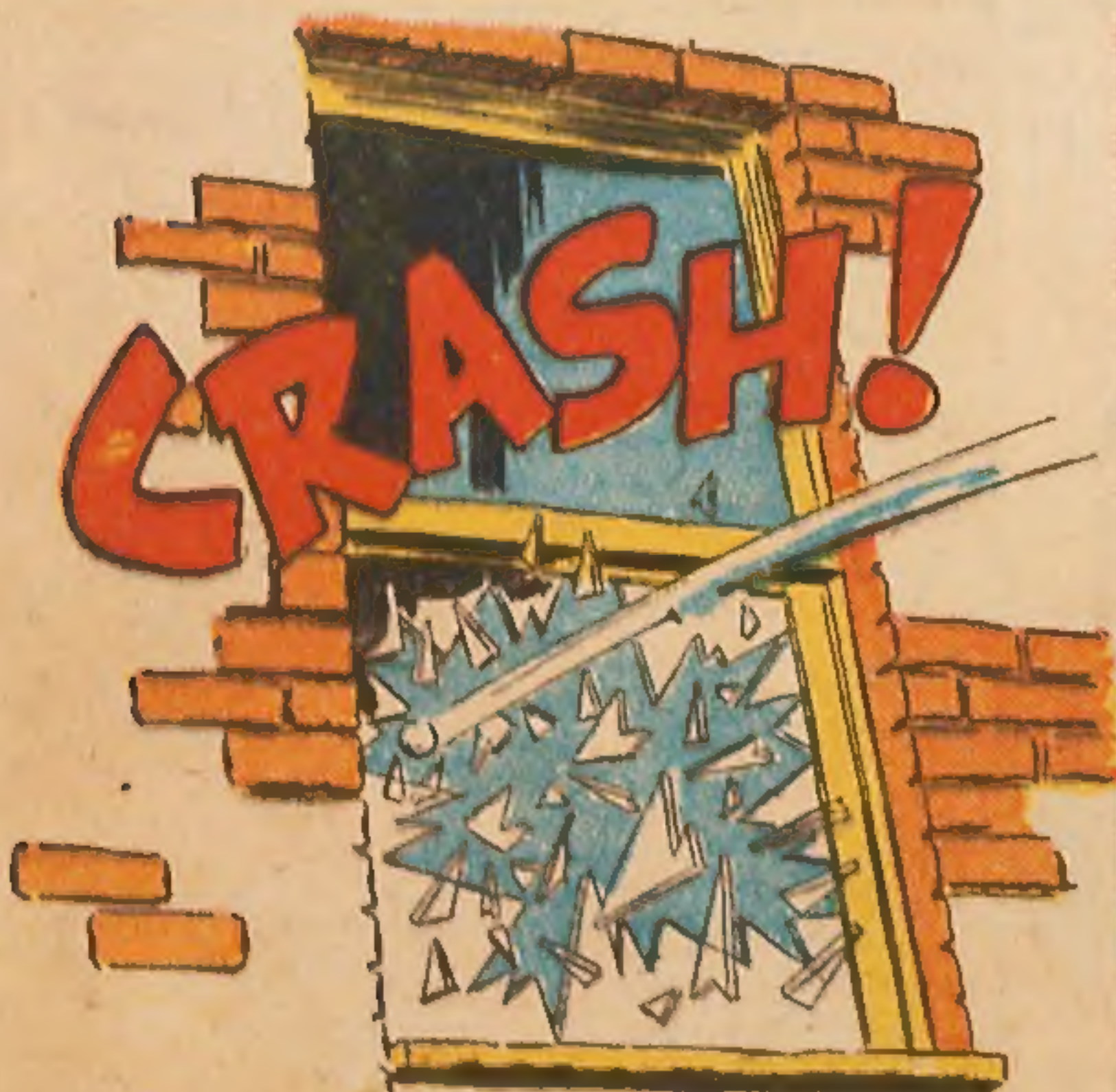
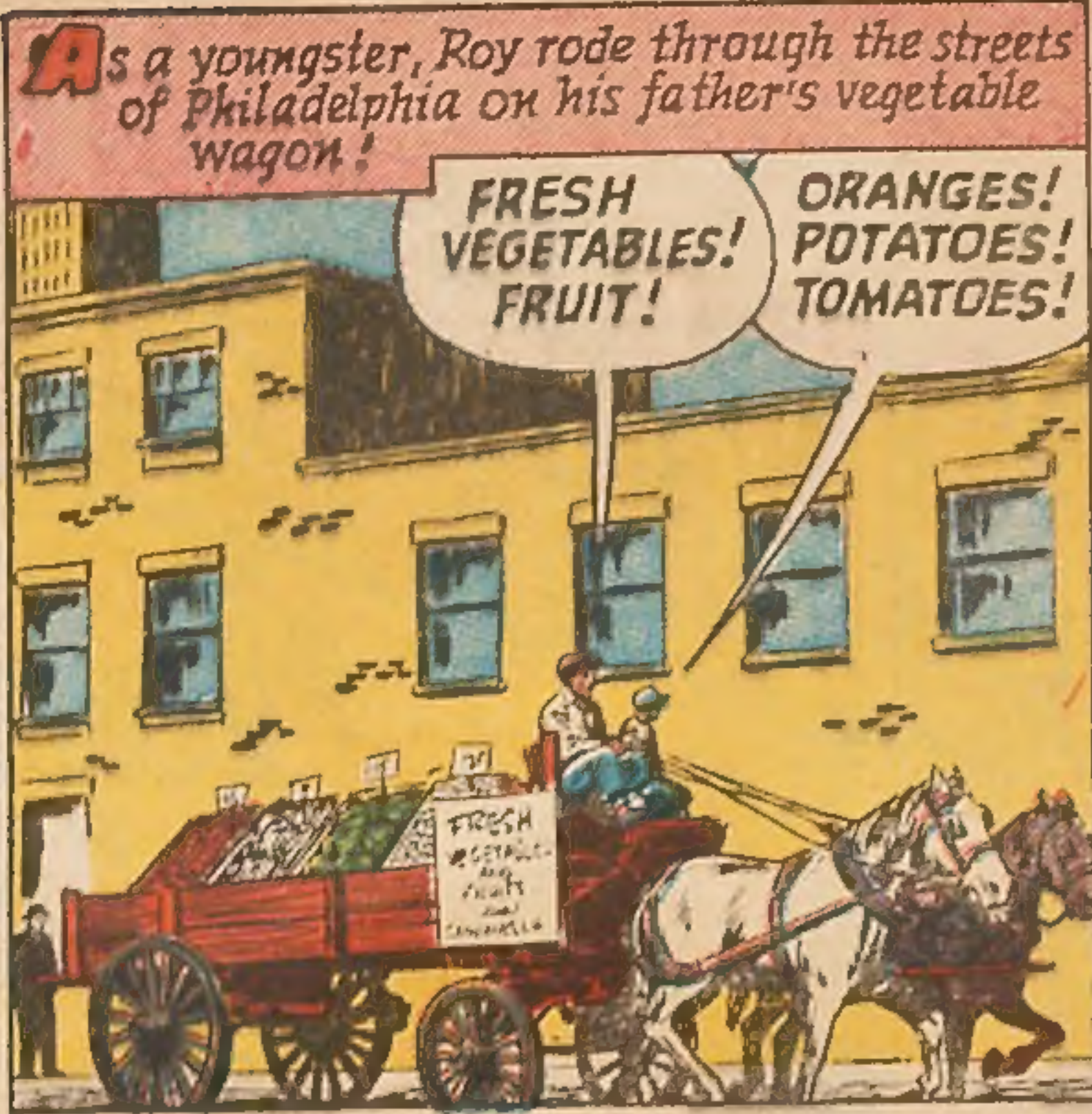
## YOU'RE OUT!



**A**nd in Brooklyn, Roy's courageous catching and powerful hitting helped the Dodgers win the tingling 1949 flag race!



**J**ohn Campanella was pleased as a pumpkin when Roy, his second son, was born just before Thanksgiving 1921! Roy was a roly-poly baby with a merry smile!





But at the doorstep of his home, Roy took a nasty fall...



At dinner, that night...

WHAT'S THE MATTER WITH THE SPAGHETTI, ROY?

I CAN'T EAT, MAMA! MY HANDS HURT!

YOU GOT HURT PLAYING BALL, EH? YOU KEEP AWAY FROM BALL GAMES!



Roy obeyed his father! For two years he played no ball!

When Roy was ten, he met Forrest White, owner of a weekly newspaper!



YES, SIR! I LOVE BASEBALL!

GOOD! I'M FORMING A TEAM FOR YOU NEWSBOYS! HOW ABOUT PLAYING WITH MY BOYS?



Roy played outfield on the Independents! One day, Jimmy Lake, their catcher, tried to grab a foul tip with his bare hand, and...



JIMMY'S HURT, ROY! YOU'LL HAVE TO CATCH THE REST OF THE GAME!

I NEVER CAUGHT BEFORE, MR. WHITE, BUT I'LL TRY!





**C**atching for the first time in his life, peppery Roy was so thrilled that he tossed his mask away!

C'MON, KIDS! LET'S WIN THIS GAME!  
**A LITTLE LIFE NOW!**



But on the next pitch...

**OOOOH!**



OH, WHY MUST YOU ALWAYS GET HURT? YOU KEEP AWAY FROM BALL GAMES, ROY, OR YOU'LL GET KILLED SOME DAY!

YOU'RE TOO BIG TO SPANK! GO TO YOUR ROOM, ROY!

I DON'T CARE IF I GET HURT, MOM AND DAD! I LOVE BASEBALL!



**A**t thirteen, Roy starred on the Gillespie Junior High School team!

THAT'S THE SECOND HOMER ROY'S HIT, FOR US TODAY, MR. WELSH!

HE'S A GREAT PROSPECT, COACH! I CAN USE HIM ON OUR LEGION TEAM!



Not long after...

YOU ARE AN AMERICAN LEGION JUNIOR NOW, ROY!

I KNOW WHAT THAT MEANS, MR. WELSH... **HONOR, SPORTSMANSHIP AND FAIR PLAY!**

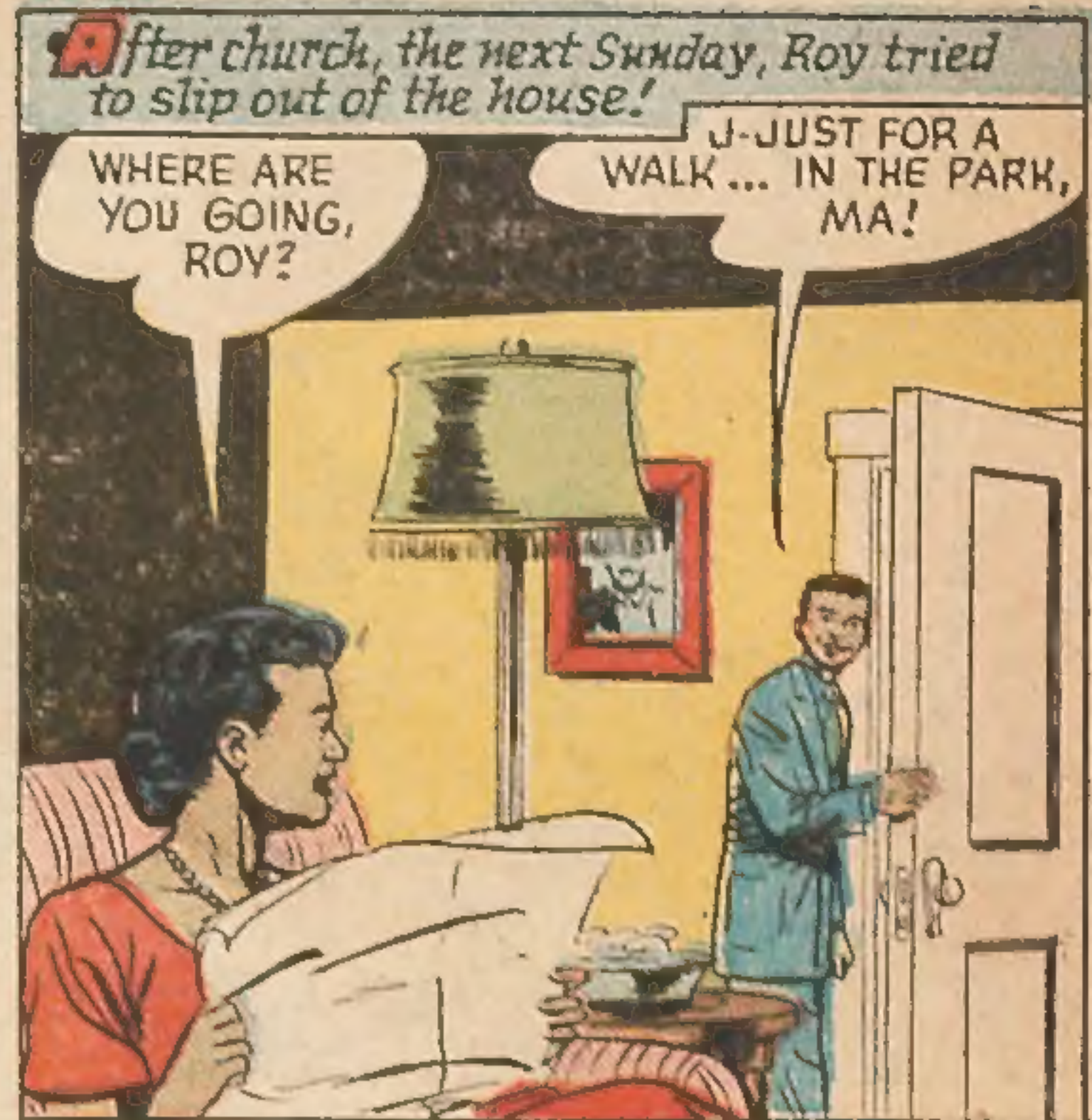


**R**oy's sharp hitting and daring fielding featured the Pennsylvania Junior Legion games!

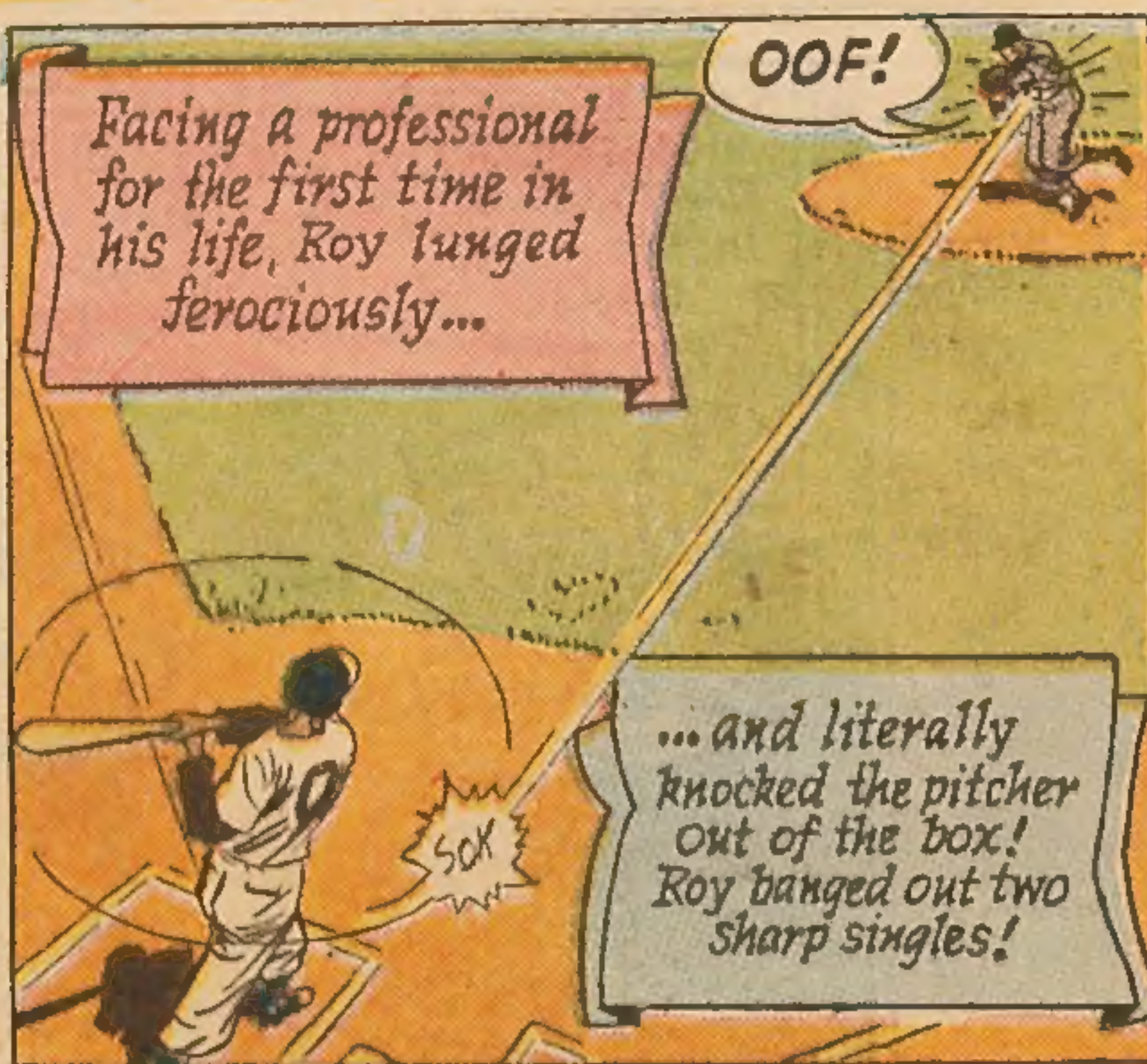
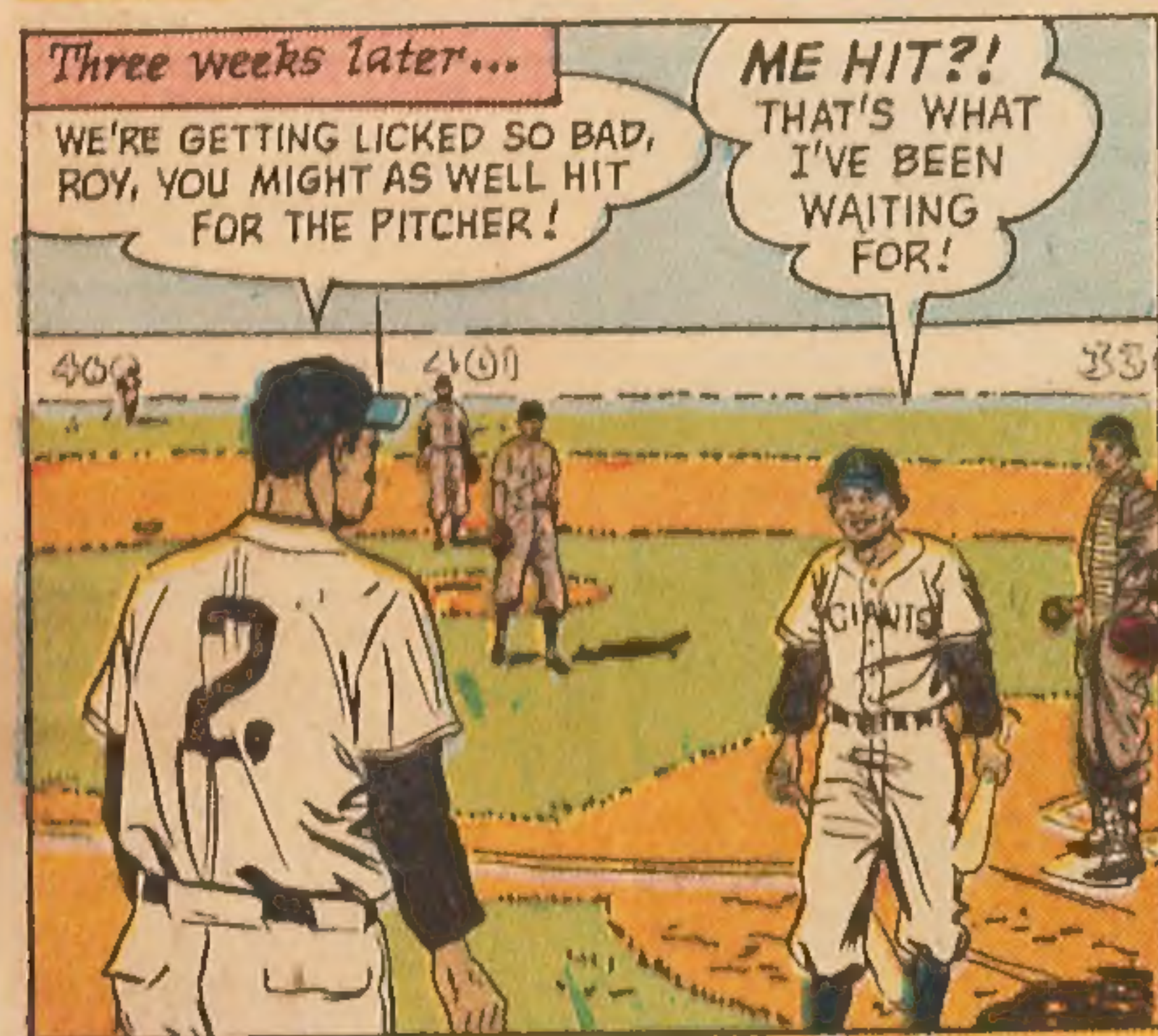
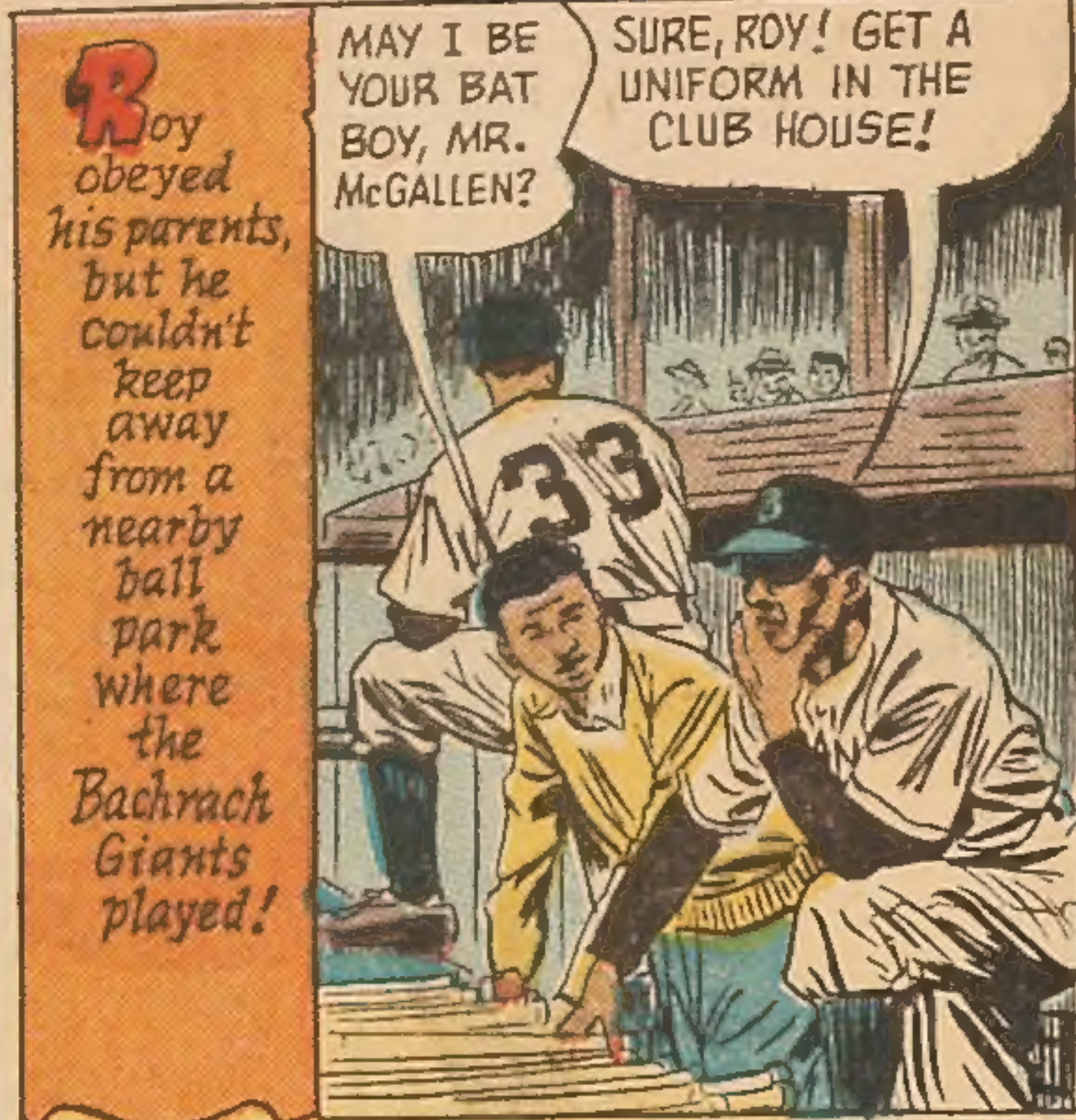
**OUT!**















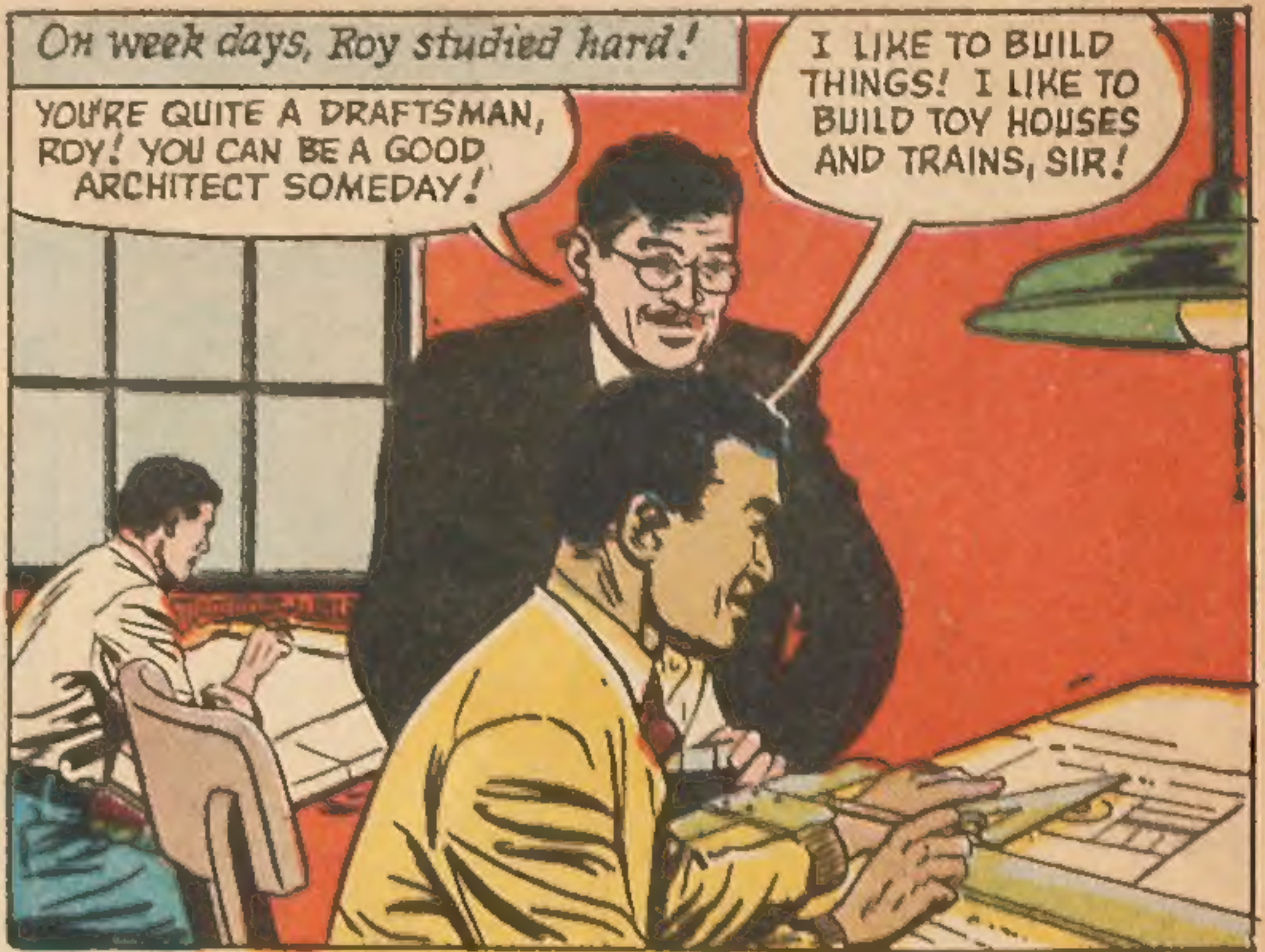
A year later, when Roy was fifteen, he entered Simon Gratz High School and easily made the ball team! On Saturdays, he caught for his school team! On Sundays, for the Bachrach Giants!



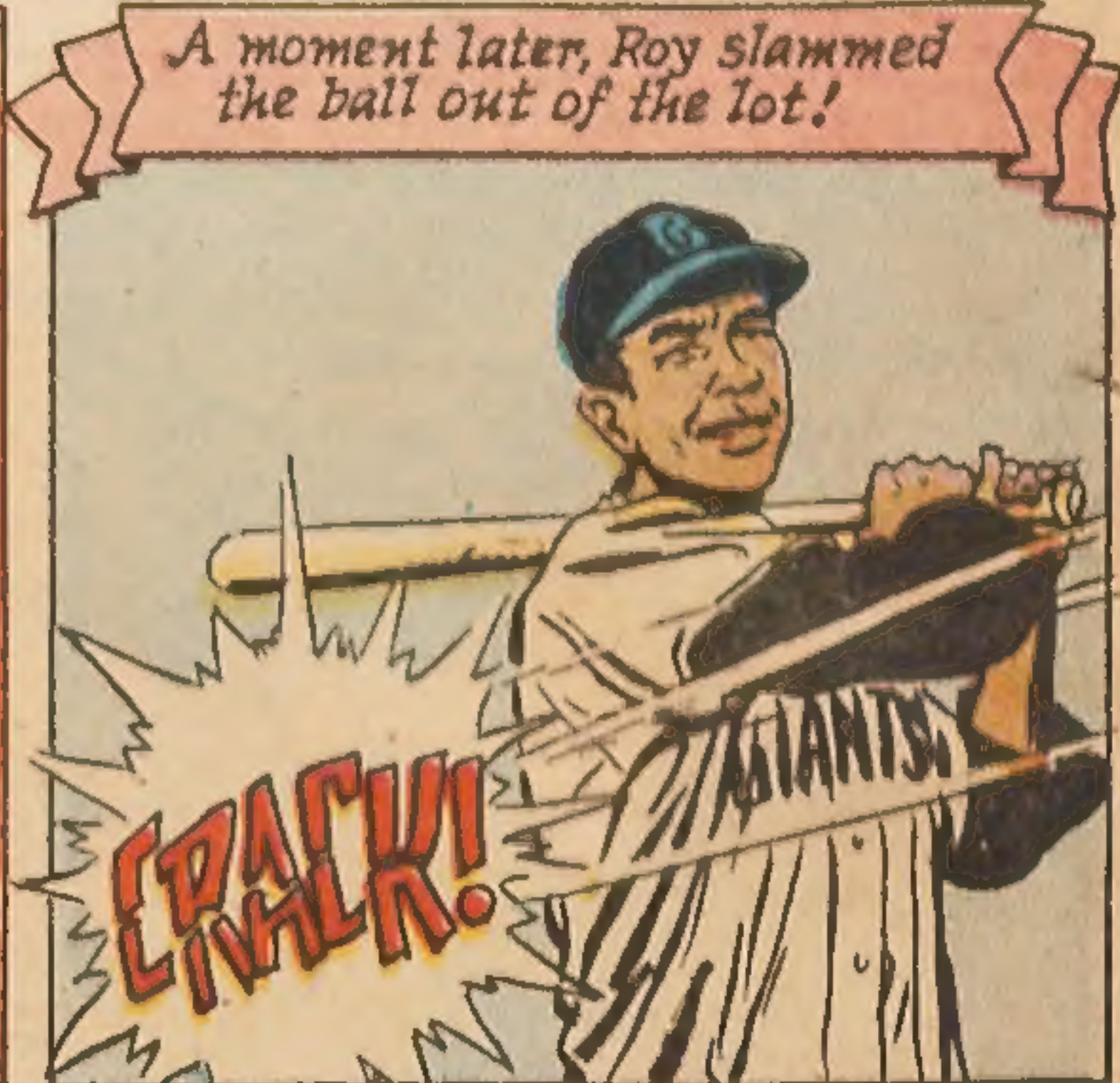
On week days, Roy studied hard!

YOU'RE QUITE A DRAFTSMAN, ROY! YOU CAN BE A GOOD ARCHITECT SOMEDAY!

I LIKE TO BUILD THINGS! I LIKE TO BUILD TOY HOUSES AND TRAINS, SIR!



A moment later, Roy slammed the ball out of the lot!

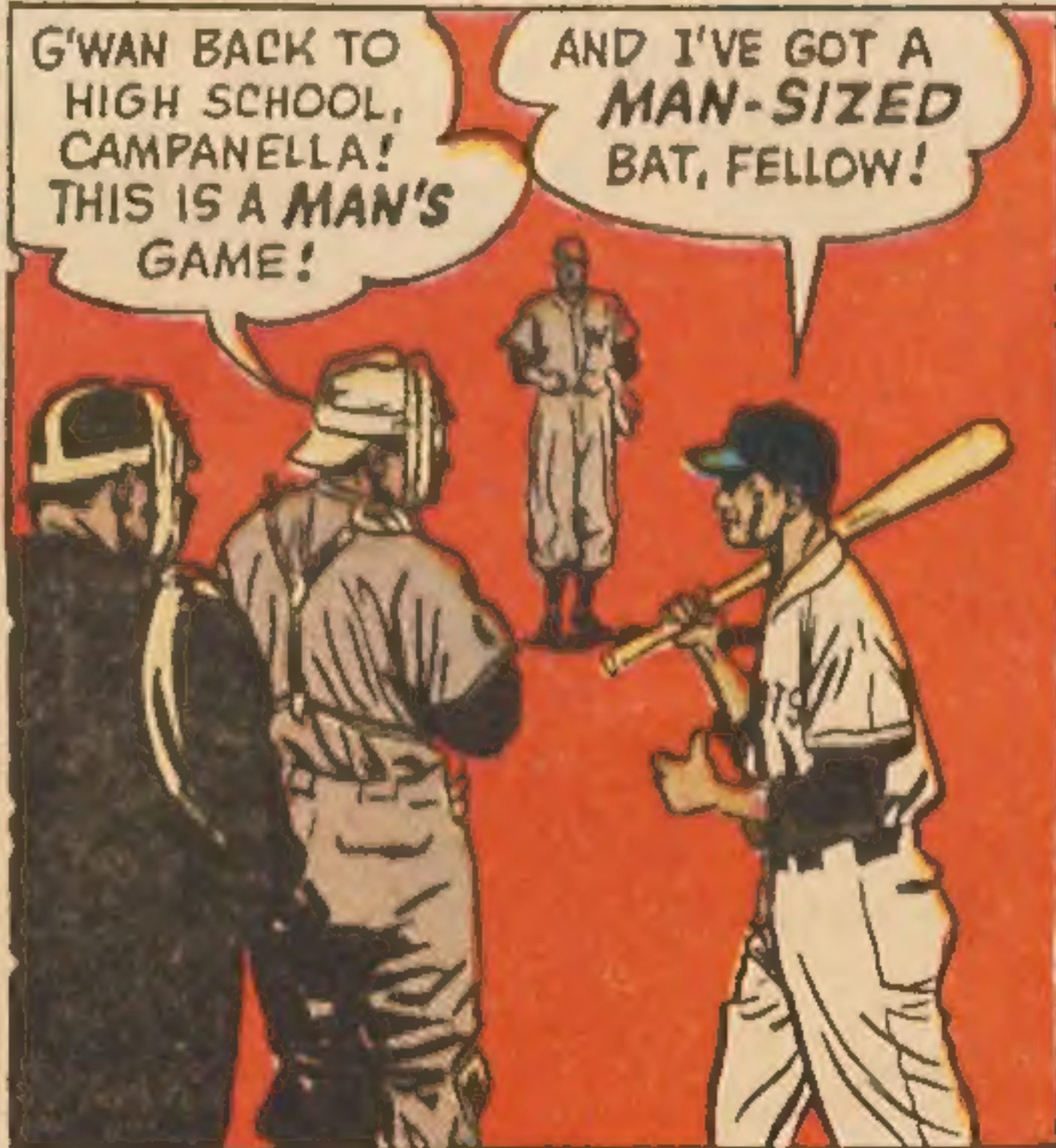


One Sunday, Bachrach played the Wilmington Blues!

The bases were full as Roy came to bat!

G'WAN BACK TO HIGH SCHOOL, CAMPANELLA! THIS IS A MAN'S GAME!

AND I'VE GOT A MAN-SIZED BAT, FELLOW!



SOME SOCK, CAMPY!

I NEVER THOUGHT A FIFTEEN-YEAR OLD KID COULD HIT THAT FAR!

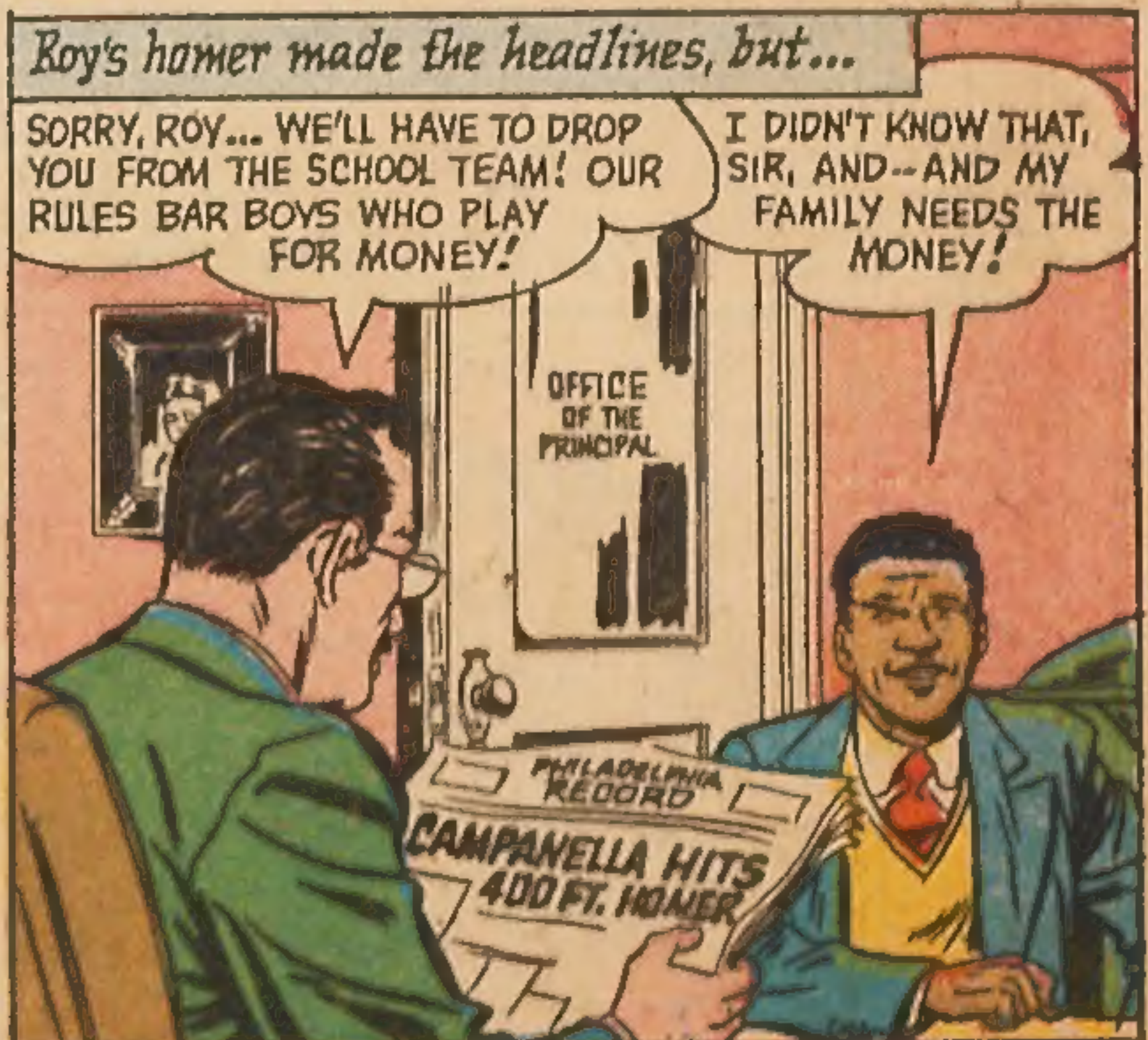
YOU KNOW IT NOW!



Roy's homer made the headlines, but...

SORRY, ROY... WE'LL HAVE TO DROP YOU FROM THE SCHOOL TEAM! OUR RULES BAR BOYS WHO PLAY FOR MONEY!

I DIDN'T KNOW THAT, SIR, AND--AND MY FAMILY NEEDS THE MONEY!





**I**n Baltimore, a few days later, scout Tom Dixon of the big-time Elite Giants, burst into Manager Biz Mackey's office!

THIS CAMPANELLA'S ONLY FIFTEEN, BUT HE PACKS A TERRIFIC WALLOP, BIZ!

SEND FOR HIM, TOM! IT SURE WOULDN'T HURT TO GIVE THE KID A LOOK-SEE!



The next Sunday morning...

I'M PLAYING WITH THE BACHRACHS TODAY, MA! I'LL BE RIGHT HOME AFTER THE GAME!

COME BACK EARLY, ROY! I'M FIXING A FINE DINNER!



As Roy hurried down the street...

HEY, CAMPY! I'VE BEEN LOOKING FOR YOU EVERYWHERE! THE ELITE GIANTS WANT YOU TO PLAY FOR THEM TODAY!

THE ELITE GIANTS?! ME? ON A BIG TIME TEAM? SURE! BUT I'LL HAVE TO LET THE BACHRACHS KNOW FIRST!



On the bus to Norristown, where the Elite Giants were playing, Roy was scared and lonely!

YOU'RE ROBBING THE CRADLE, MR. DIXON!

CAMPY'S YOUNG, BUT I HAVE GREAT HOPES FOR HIM!

SO THESE ARE BIG LEAGUERS...



That afternoon, Roy caught Tom Glover, the Elite Giants' star curve-ball flinger!

MR. GLOVER, WATCH THIS NEXT GL' COMING UP! HE CROWLED THE PLATE THE LAST TIME AT BAT! LET'S GIVE HIM SOME SIDE-ARM CURVES!

YOU'RE DOING THE CALLING, ROY!

HMM... THIS YOUNG PUP HAS A HEAD ON HIS SHOULDERS!



After the game, Tom Glover thanked Roy for his smart receiving! Then...

DON'T GET DRESSED YET, ROY! WE PLAY THE PHILLY STARS TONIGHT!

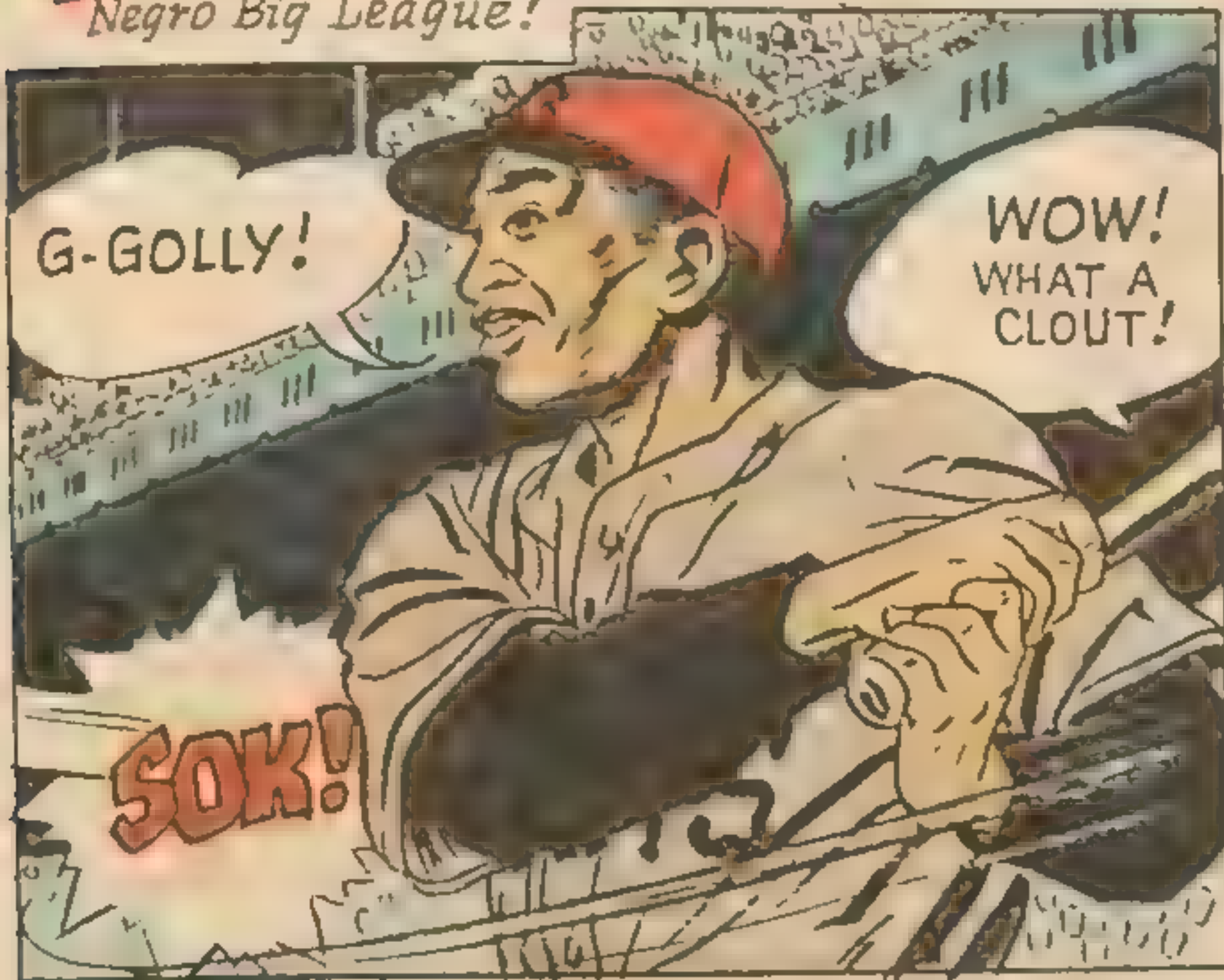
TWO GAMES IN TWO TOWNS IN ONE DAY? GREAT! I CAN'T GET ENOUGH BASEBALL, TOM!





# ROY CAMPANELLA, BASEBALL HERO

That night, Roy hit his first home run in the Negro Big League!



And when Roy returned home...



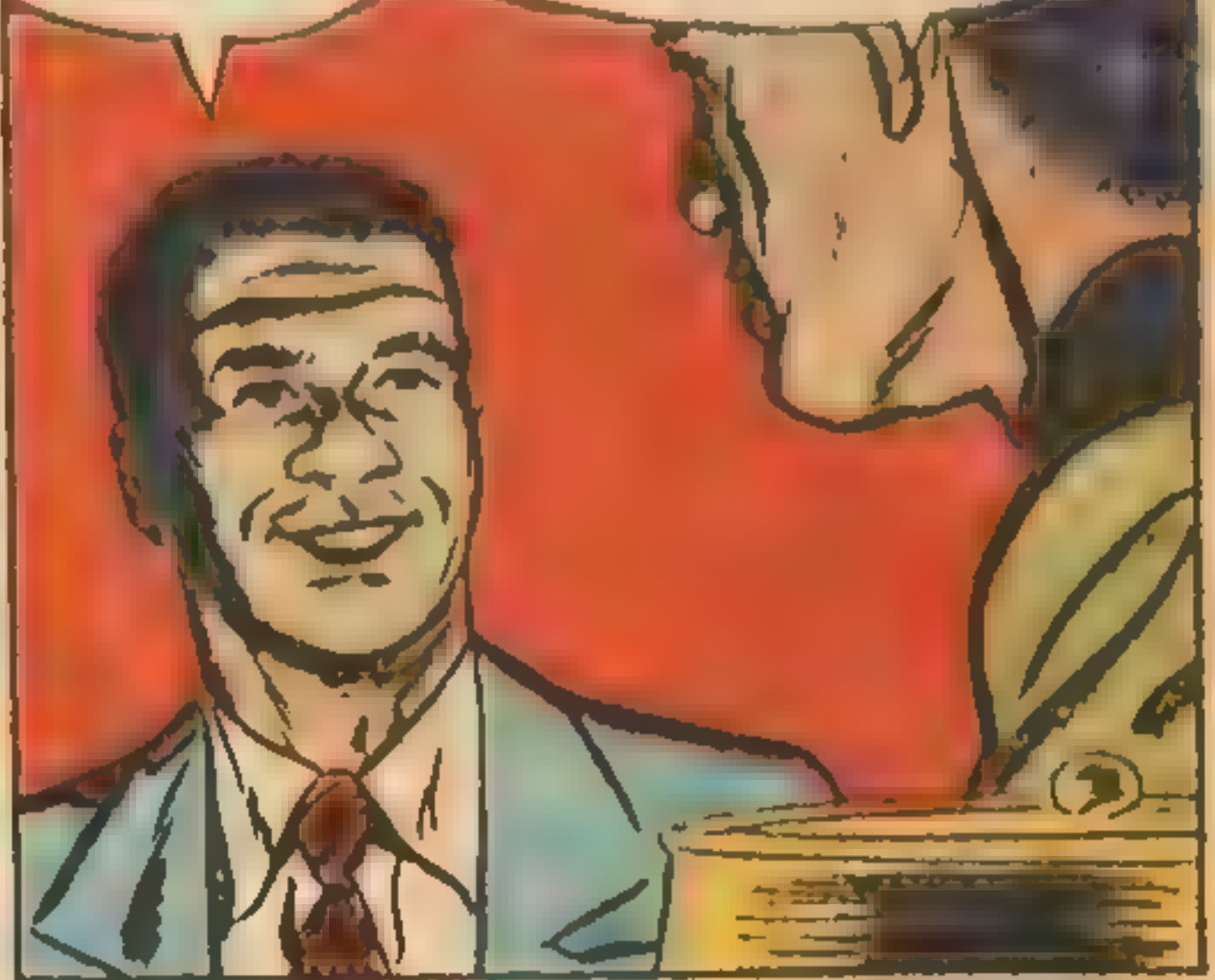
BUT, MA! I'M NOT LYING! I WAS PLAYING BALL! THE ELITE GIANTS ARE PAYING ME SIXTY DOLLARS!

YOU ON THE ELITES? I DON'T BELIEVE IT! WHERE'S THE SIXTY DOLLARS?



THEY PAY BY THE MONTH, MA! I'LL GIVE YOU EVERY CENT!

YOU SHOULD HAVE PHONED ME, ROY! EVERY MOTHER WORRIES ABOUT HER CHILDREN WHEN THEY STAY OUT LATE!

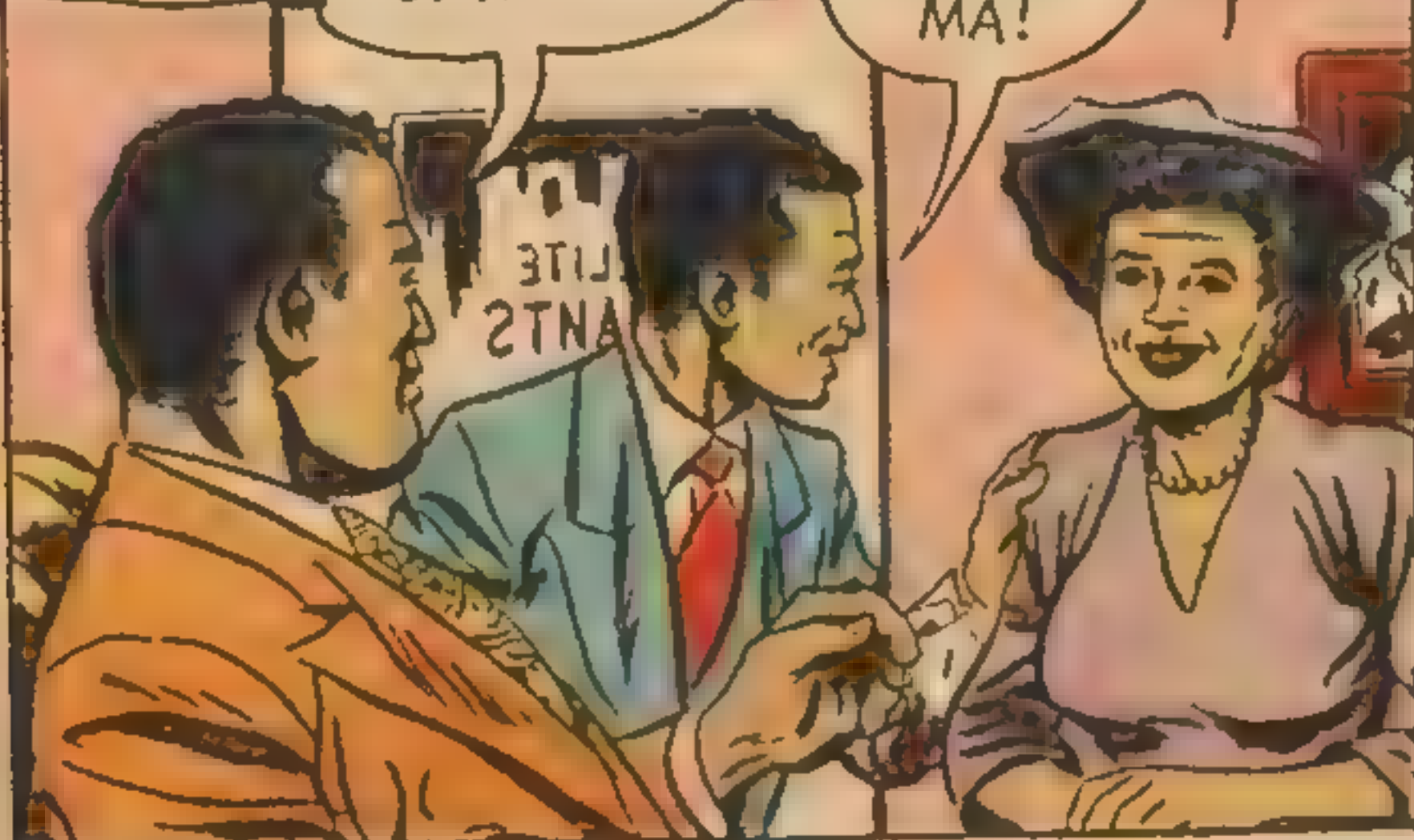


Later...

YOUR ROY IS THE FINEST ROOKIE I'VE SEEN IN YEARS, MRS. CAMPANELLA! AND BASEBALL IS A WONDERFUL CAREER FOR A YOUNG MAN! SOMEDAY YOU'LL BE PROUD OF HIM!

I HOPE SO, MR. MACKEY! OH, I HOPE SO!

I'LL TRY HARD, MA!



That night...

OH, ROY, I'VE BEEN A FOOLISH MAMA! MAYBE SOMEDAY I'LL LOVE BASEBALL, TOO!

I'M GOING TO MAKE YOU LOVE BASEBALL, MA!

HE'S A GOOD SON!







Every boy dreams of the day when he will play big-time ball! But at fifteen, Roy Campanella was already in the Negro majors, starring before thousands of admiring fans, on his way toward stardom and glory! He was a champion from the start!

During spring training, older players kidded Roy constantly!

GO BACK TO YOUR ROOM AND MAKE UP YOUR BED BEFORE YOU LEAVE THIS HOTEL, CAMPY!

HA, HA!

Y-YES, SIR!

BRING ME A BUCKET OF STEAM, ROY!

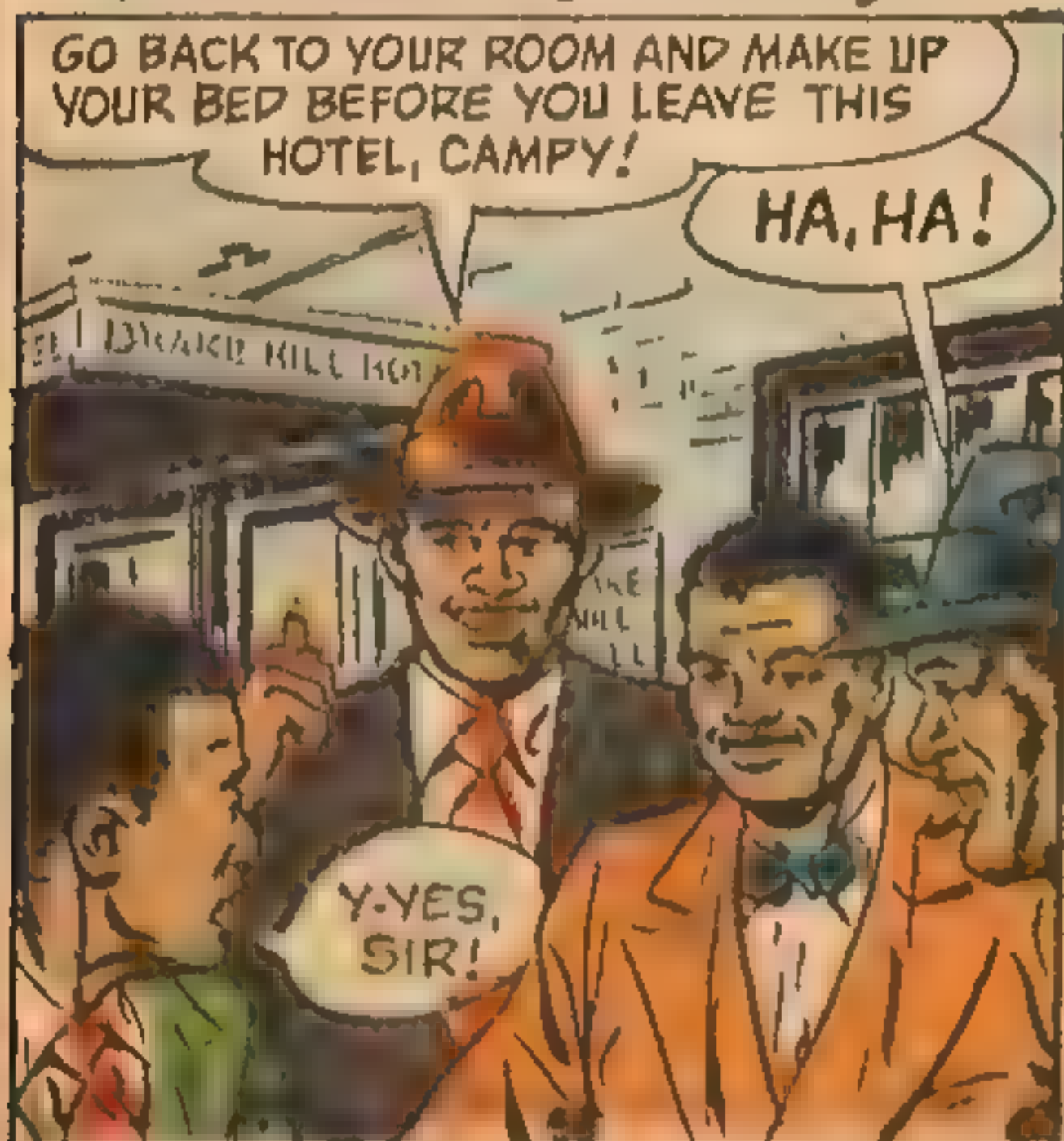
YES, SIR!

POOR KID!

A few minutes later...

I CAN'T FIND THE STEAM, SIR!

THAT'S ALL RIGHT, ROY! NOW YOU'RE A REAL BIG LEAGUER! WE WERE ONLY HAZING YOU!





# ROY CAMPANELLA, BASEBALL HERO

**I**n the season's opening game against the Newark Eagles, the first batter walked!



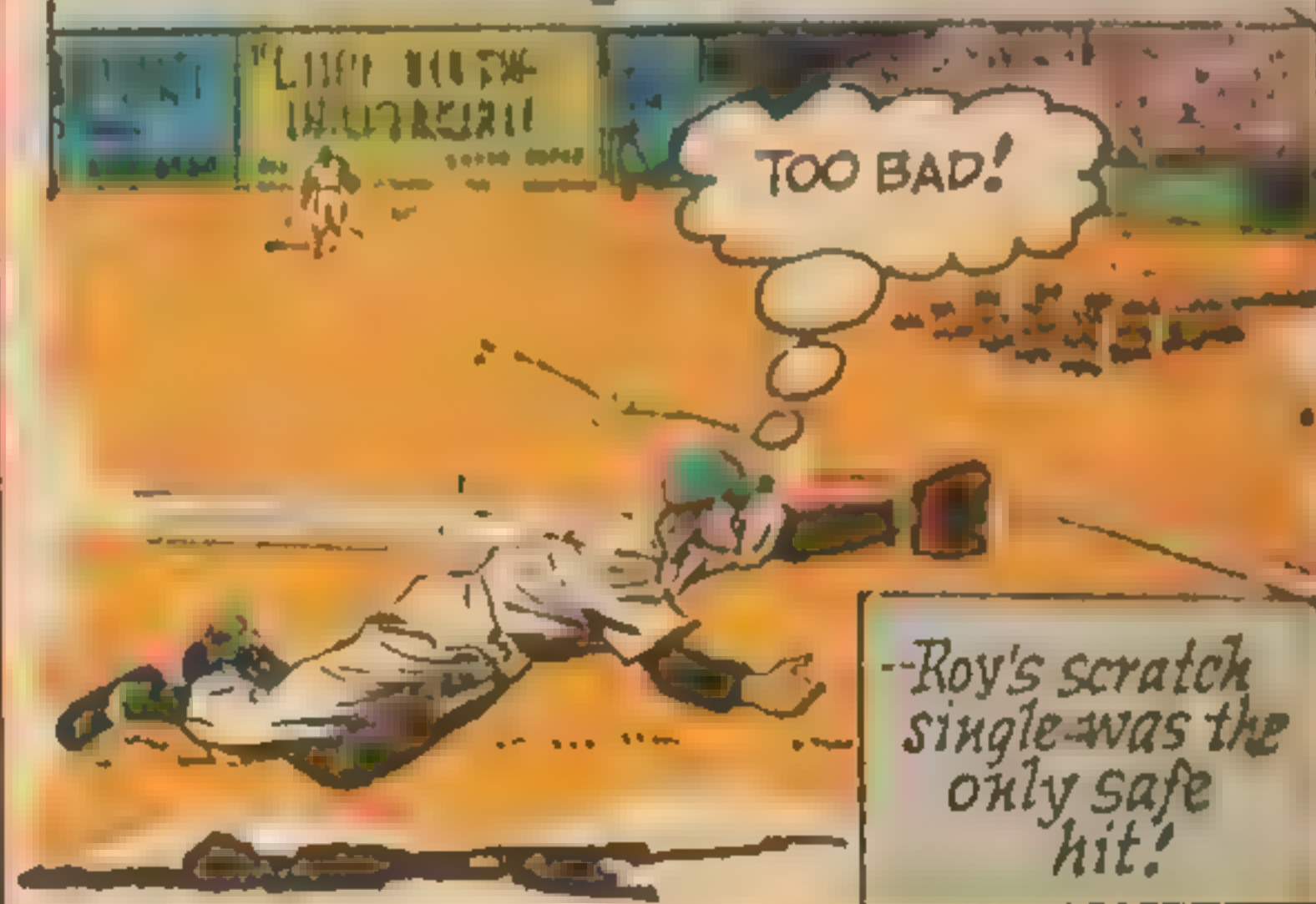
On the next pitch, the runner tried to steal second, and...



**W**hen Roy batted against the great Satchel Paige for the first time...



**B**lazing his fireball with uncanny control, pitcher Paige blanked the Elites with no hits for eight innings, but in the ninth, Roy belted a single to right!



At Yankee Stadium that spring, Roy saw his boyhood hero, Josh Gibson, peerless catcher and super-swatter, drive a colossal home run!

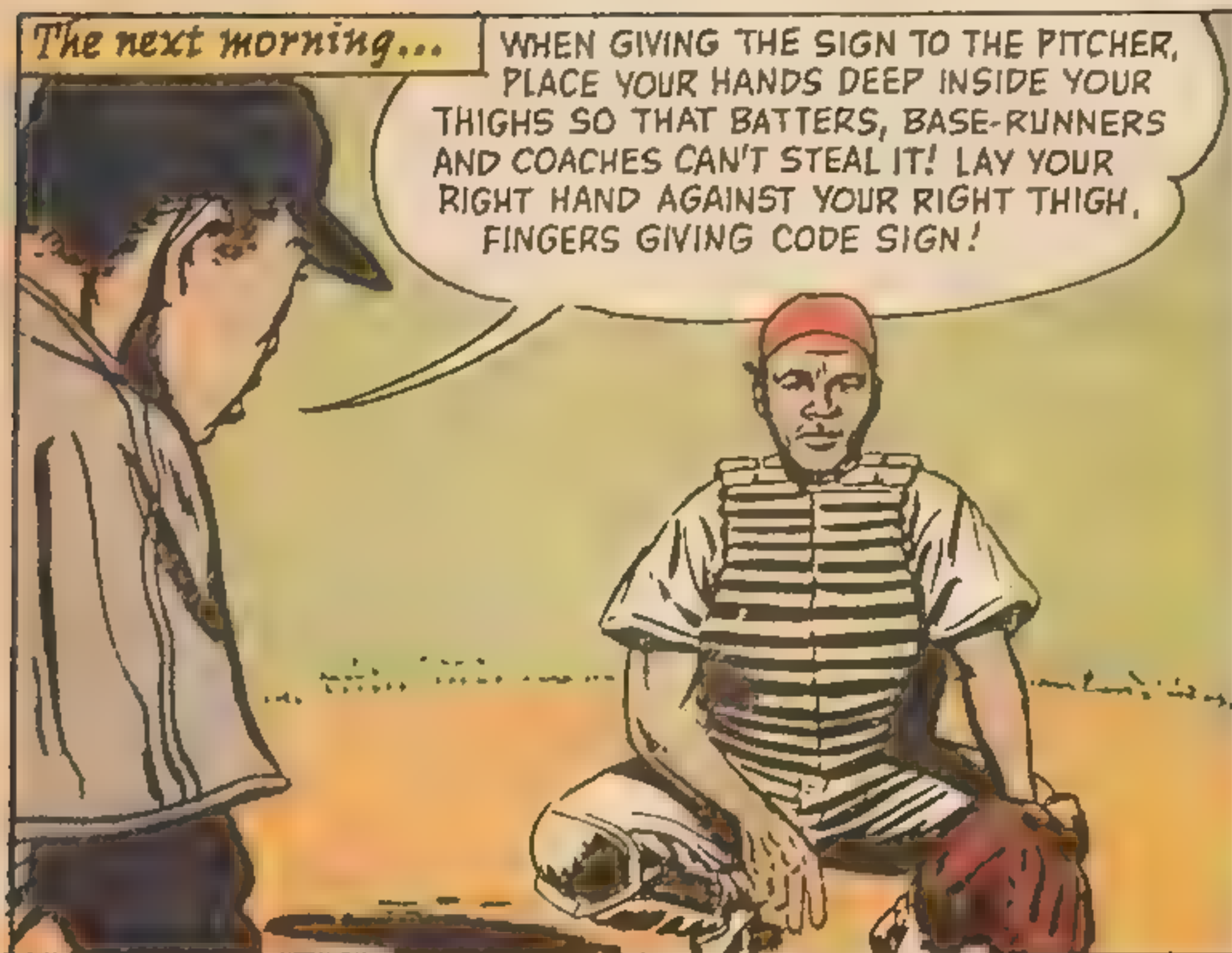




# ROY CAMPANELLA, BASEBALL HERO

*The next morning...*

WHEN GIVING THE SIGN TO THE PITCHER, PLACE YOUR HANDS DEEP INSIDE YOUR THIGHS SO THAT BATTERS, BASE-RUNNERS AND COACHES CAN'T STEAL IT! LAY YOUR RIGHT HAND AGAINST YOUR RIGHT THIGH, FINGERS GIVING CODE SIGN!



AS SOON AS YOUR PITCHER GETS THE SIGN, RAISE YOUR MITT INTO TARGET POSITION! THIS WILL GREATLY IMPROVE HIS CONTROL!



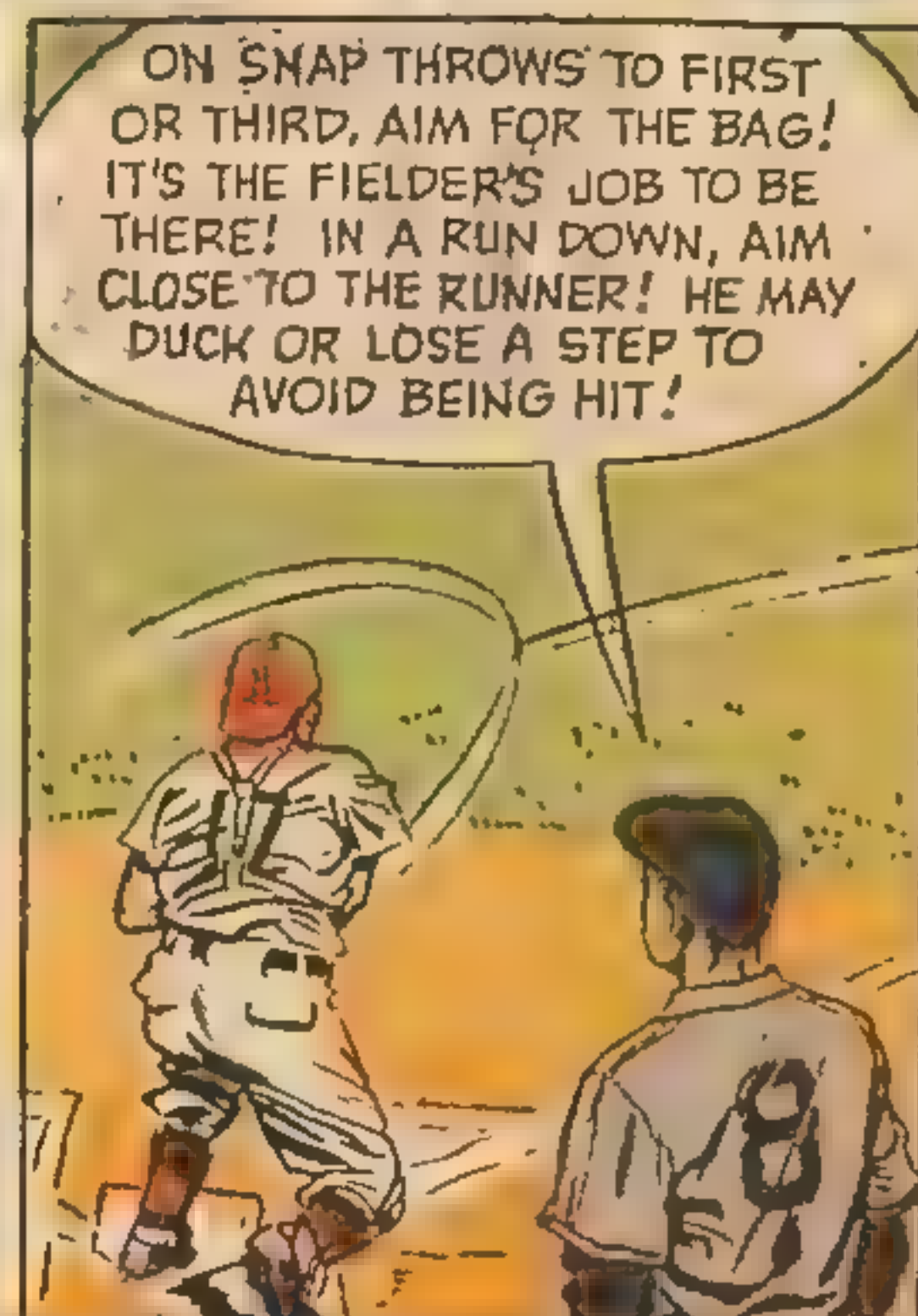
AS YOUR PITCHER ENDS HIS WINDUP, SNAP UP INTO AN ERECT POSITION SO YOU CAN GO AFTER WILD PITCHES!



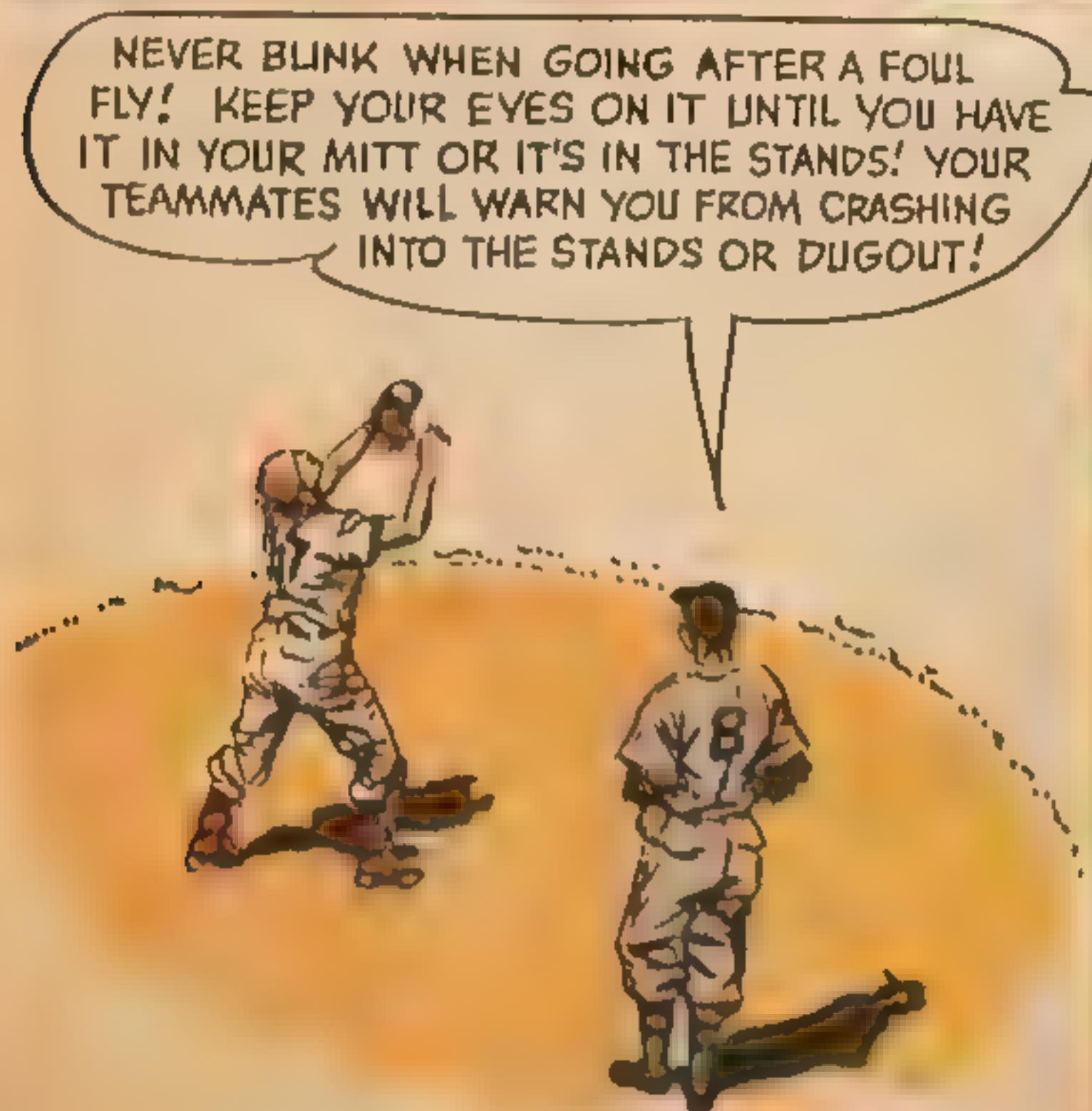
WITH RUNNERS ON BASE, STEP FORWARD AGGRESSIVELY AFTER RECEIVING THE PITCH, ARM COCKED TO THROW! THIS MAY DELAY RUNNERS IN ATTEMPTS TO STEAL!



ON SNAP THROWS TO FIRST OR THIRD, AIM FOR THE BAG! IT'S THE FIELDER'S JOB TO BE THERE! IN A RUN DOWN, AIM CLOSE TO THE RUNNER! HE MAY DUCK OR LOSE A STEP TO AVOID BEING HIT!



NEVER BLINK WHEN GOING AFTER A FOUL FLY! KEEP YOUR EYES ON IT UNTIL YOU HAVE IT IN YOUR MITT OR IT'S IN THE STANDS! YOUR TEAMMATES WILL WARN YOU FROM CRASHING INTO THE STANDS OR DUGOUT!



THANKS A MILLION, MR. GIBSON! YOU'VE HELPED ME A LOT!

GOOD LUCK TO YOU, ROY! I HOPE YOU MAKE GOOD!

PLAYERS





**B**y May 1935, Roy Campanella was hitting .400! A fifteen-year-old sensation who was tearing up the league, he was hailed as "the greatest rookie prospect in years"! And the Elite Giants became a leading contender for the Negro League Flag!

GRAYS  
GIANTS

0 0 0 0 0 0 1 0 0  
0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0

On the season's last day, the Homestead Grays and the Giants were tied for the lead! In the ninth, with one out, Bill Wright, Elite Giant slugger, slashed a line-drive double down the foul line! Then Bill Hoskins beat out a bunt, moving Wright over to third base!



Hard-hitting Horse Walker tried to slam the ball out of the lot, but...

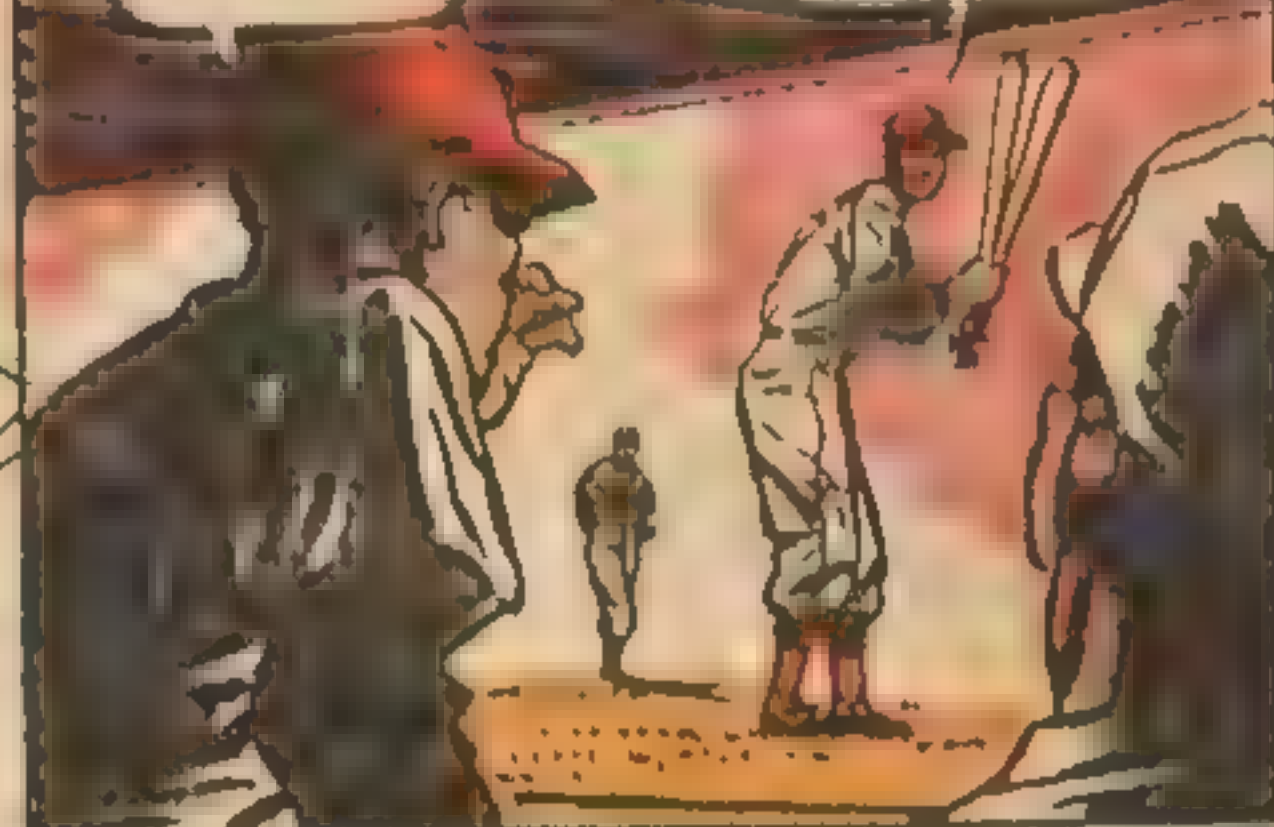
**STRIKE THREE!**



It was up to Roy! If he went out, the pennant was lost! Manager Mackey hesitated...

WAIT A MINUTE, ROY!

YES, MR. MACKEY...?



Would a veteran pinch-hitter do better than a school-boy sensation?

But Roy knew what was on Mackey's mind!

I'LL GET A HIT, MR. MACKEY! LET ME STAY IN!

OKAY, ROY! THAT'S THE SPIRIT!



Roy was as good as his word! The first pitch and...



...he belted a long double to win the game and the flag for his team! He was the toast of Baltimore fans that day!



# ROY CAMPANELLA, BASEBALL HERO

Meanwhile, Roy continued his high-school studies!

LET'S SEE THE EQUATION, ROY!

$$(A+B)(A+B) = A^2 + 2AB + B^2$$

In 1939, Roy received two awards...

YOU HAVE YOUR DIPLOMA, ROY! THIS IS YOUR HONOR MEDAL IN DRAFTSMANSHIP!

THANK YOU, SIR!

BALTIMORE IS PROUD OF YOU, ROY! YOU ARE THE LEAGUE'S MOST VALUABLE PLAYER!

THANK YOU, MR. MAYOR!

The Elites won the 1939 pennant! In the playoff with the Philly Stars, Roy hit a home-run, double and single to bat in five runs! After the game...

FOR ROY'S A JOLLY GOOD FELLOW!

(GULP!) GOLLY! I FEEL LIKE CELEBRATING!

On a vacation in New York, Roy visited the 1939 World's Fair!

THE WORLD OF TOMORROW! GOSH!

Roy watched the famous Olympic Girls' Basketball Team play that night!

SHE'S SOME PLAYER!

BASKET FOR NUMBER THREE, RUTH WILLIS!

Later...

MY SISTER, GLADYS, IS QUITE A BASKETBALL PLAYER, MISS WILLIS!

AND I HEAR YOU ARE QUITE A BASEBALL PLAYER, MR. CAMPANELLA!



# ROY CAMPANELLA, BASEBALL HERO

**Boy and Ruth spent many evenings taking in the Fair! Then, one night...**

MY WORLD OF TOMORROW IS A WIFE AND A HOME -- OH, YOU KNOW WHAT I MEAN, RUTH!

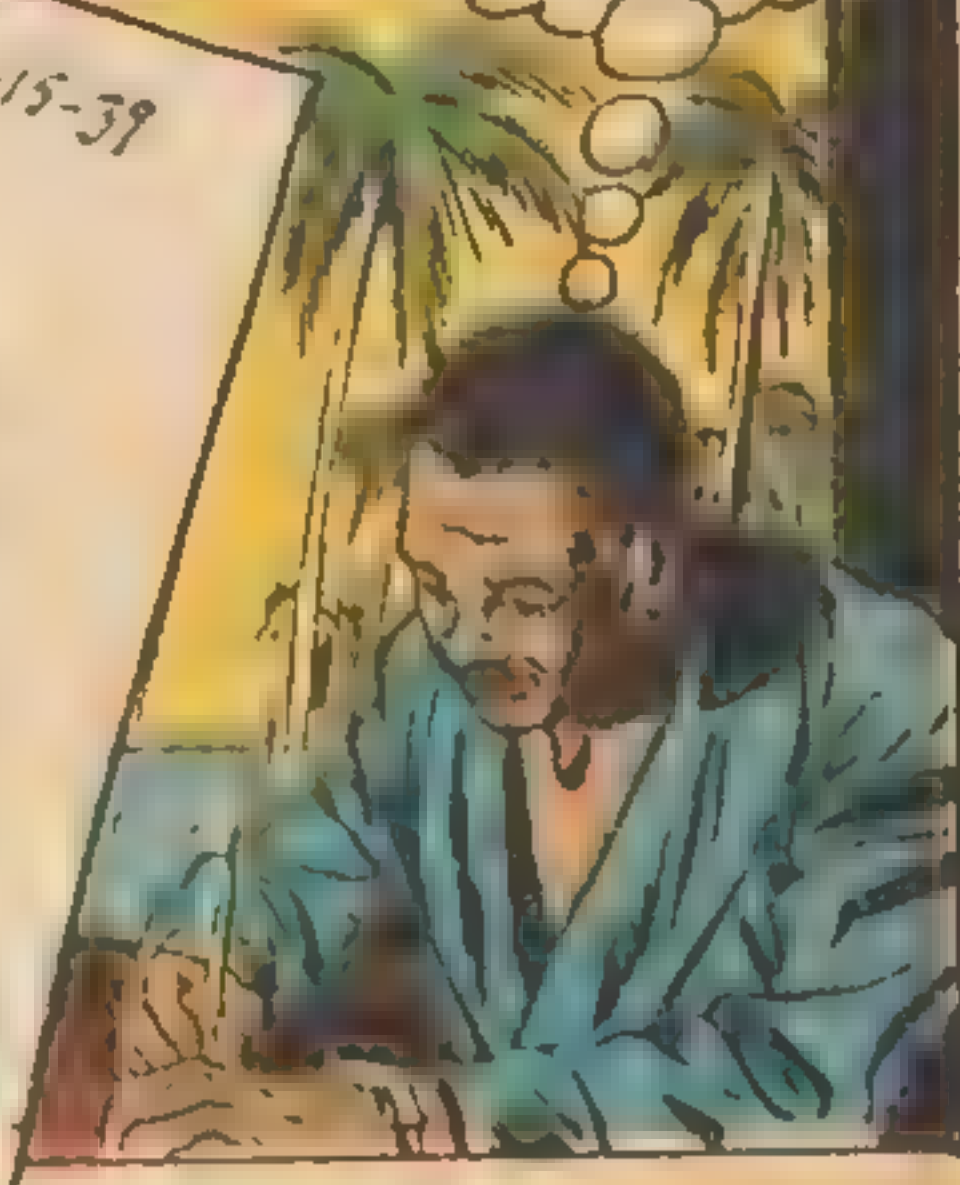
I THINK I DO, ROY!



That winter, Roy played ball in Venezuela...

12-15-39  
Dearest Ruth,  
Venezuela is very beautiful, the fans are wonderful.  
But Ruth, I can't do without you.  
Always,  
Roy.

SHE'LL KNOW WHAT I MEAN!



**Later, in a busy office thousands of miles away...**

BUREAU OF INTERNAL REVENUE

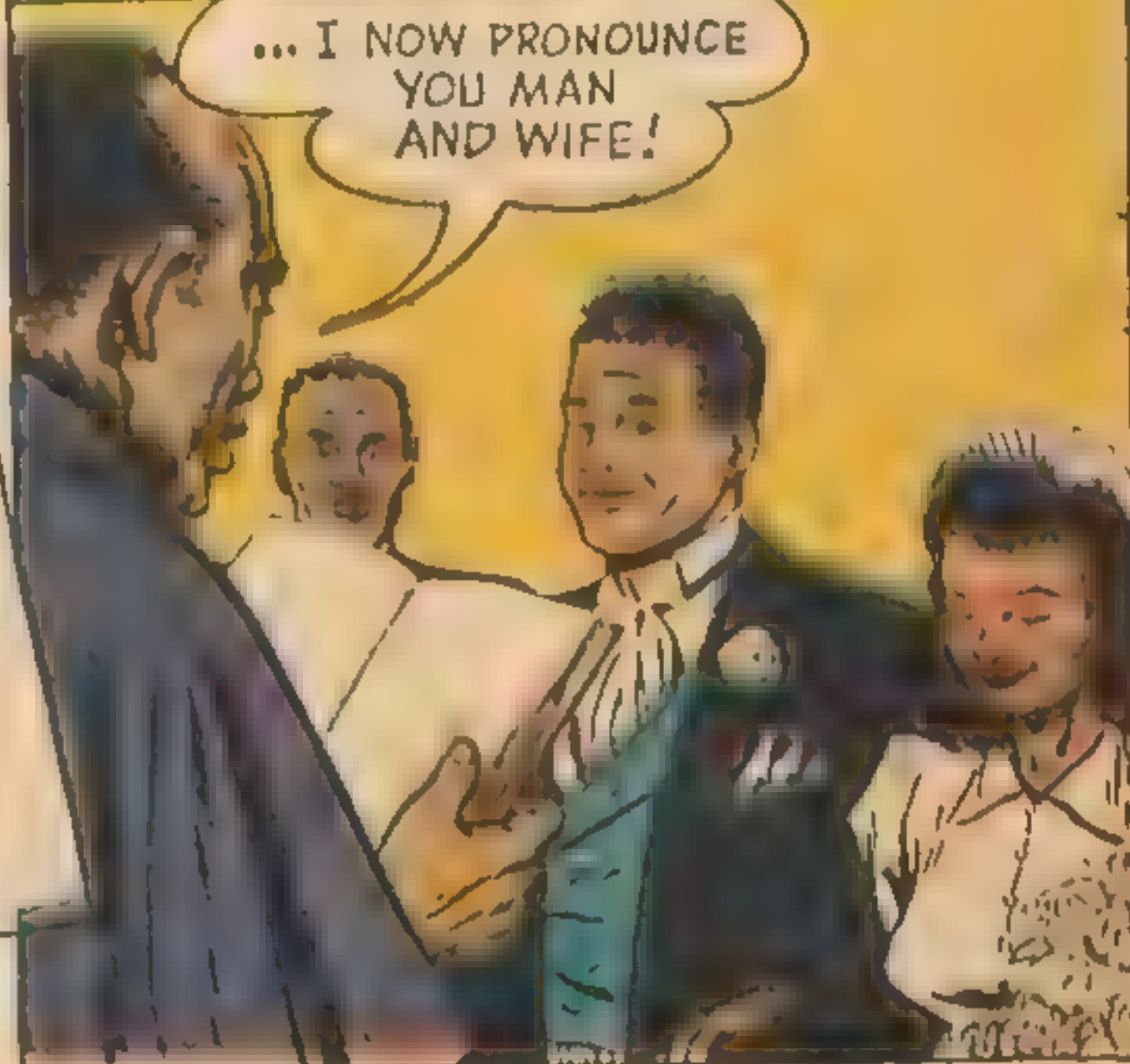
TAP-TAP-TAP  
TAP-TAP-TAP  
TAP-TAP-TAP



Dear Sir:  
Yours of the 15th Dec. received. In reply to your proposal, the answer is YES, YES, YES!  
Very truly yours,  
Miss Ruth Willis

And in the spring...

... I NOW PRONOUNCE YOU MAN AND WIFE!



On the wings of Ruth's love, Roy soared to new height of diamond fame, winning Most Valuable Player awards and All-Star Trophies in 1940 and 1941! Each fall, crack Negro players met white major league players in exhibition games!

The Negro All-Stars faced Bobby Feller in Los Angeles!



Feller struck out fifteen in seven innings, but Roy got two hits!

After a game against Jimmy Foxx's major league All Stars...

YOU'D STAR ON ANY OF OUR TEAMS, ROY!

MAYBE I WOULD, IF I HAD THE CHANCE, JIMMY! IT'S NOT THE PLAYERS WHO DON'T WANT ME... OR THE FANS!





# ROY CAMPANELLA. BASEBALL HERO

In the spring of 1942...

IT'S ABOUT TIME!

Evening Bulletin  
PHILS TO TRY OUT  
CAMPY...

At Shibe Park, Roy ran bases, made bullet throws, and...

ROY'D HIT THIRTY HOMERS FOR US THIS YEAR!

After the Philly tryout...

YOU'LL HAVE TO WAIT UNTIL SOMETHING TURNS UP, CAMPANELLA!

I THINK I UNDERSTAND!

Roy was hitting .357 for the Elites on August 1st! Called to Pittsburgh for a tryout with the Pirates, he again staged a mighty display of his diamond prowess! But afterwards...

THE PIRATES NEED YOU, ROY! I'M READY TO SIGN YOU, BUT...

I UNDERSTAND, MR. BENSWANGER!

The next morning...

THERE'S NOT ENOUGH MONEY IN BASEBALL TO GIVE YOU AND LITTLE DAVID THE HOME YOU DESERVE, RUTH!

I HAVE FAITH IN THE FUTURE, ROY! OH-- I FORGOT! A TELEGRAM CAME FOR YOU TODAY!

LISTEN, RUTH! "IN THE NAME OF TOLERANCE AND BROTHERHOOD, WILL YOU PLAY IN NEGRO-WHITE CHARITY GAME IN CLEVELAND SUNDAY? SIGNED -- WILLIAM T. DUGGAN."  
I SURE WILL!

THAT'S THE SPIRIT, ROY!

In the Cleveland Charity Game...

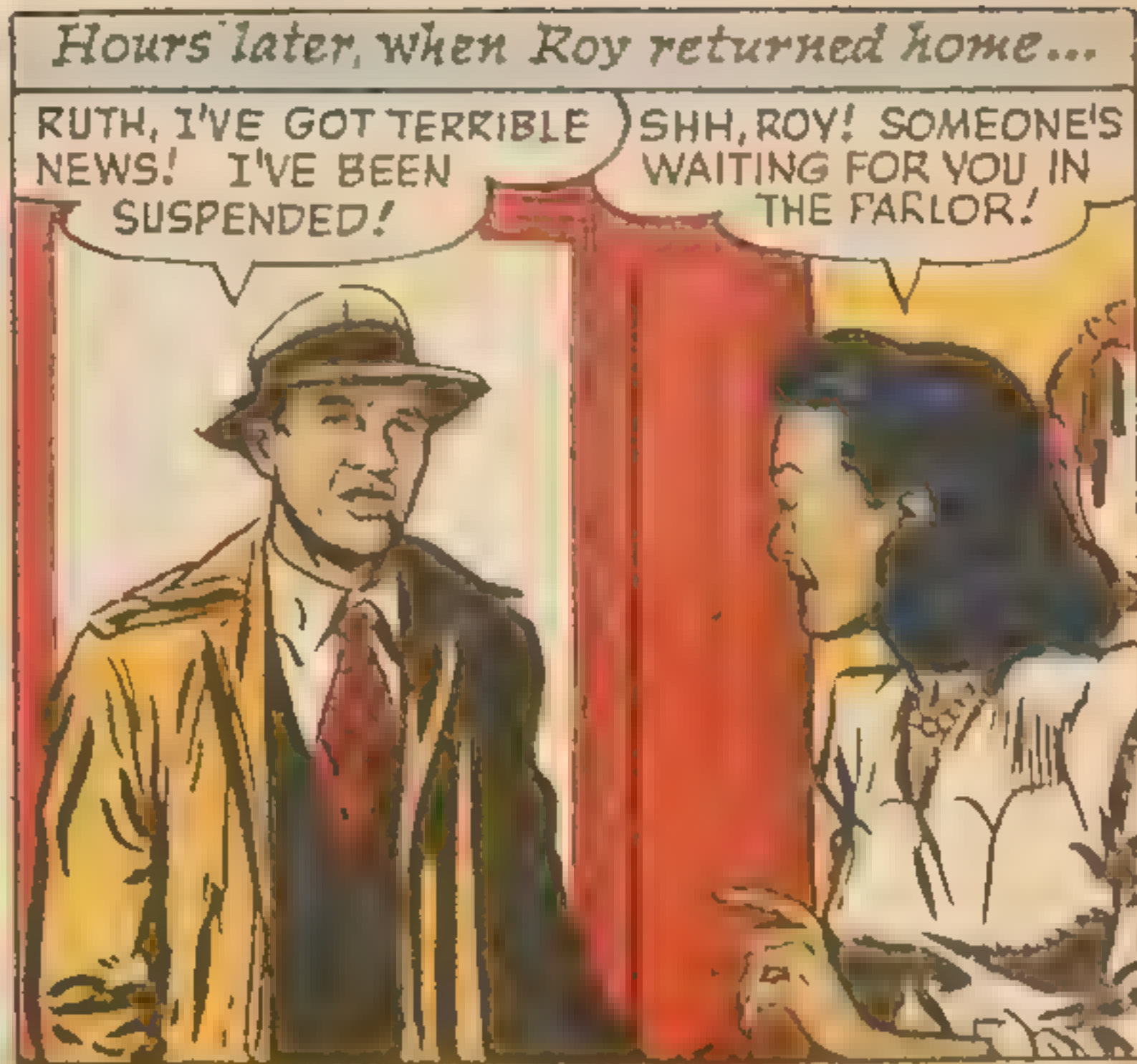
THAT'S ROY'S SECOND HOMER!

AND HE THREW OUT THREE RUNNERS!

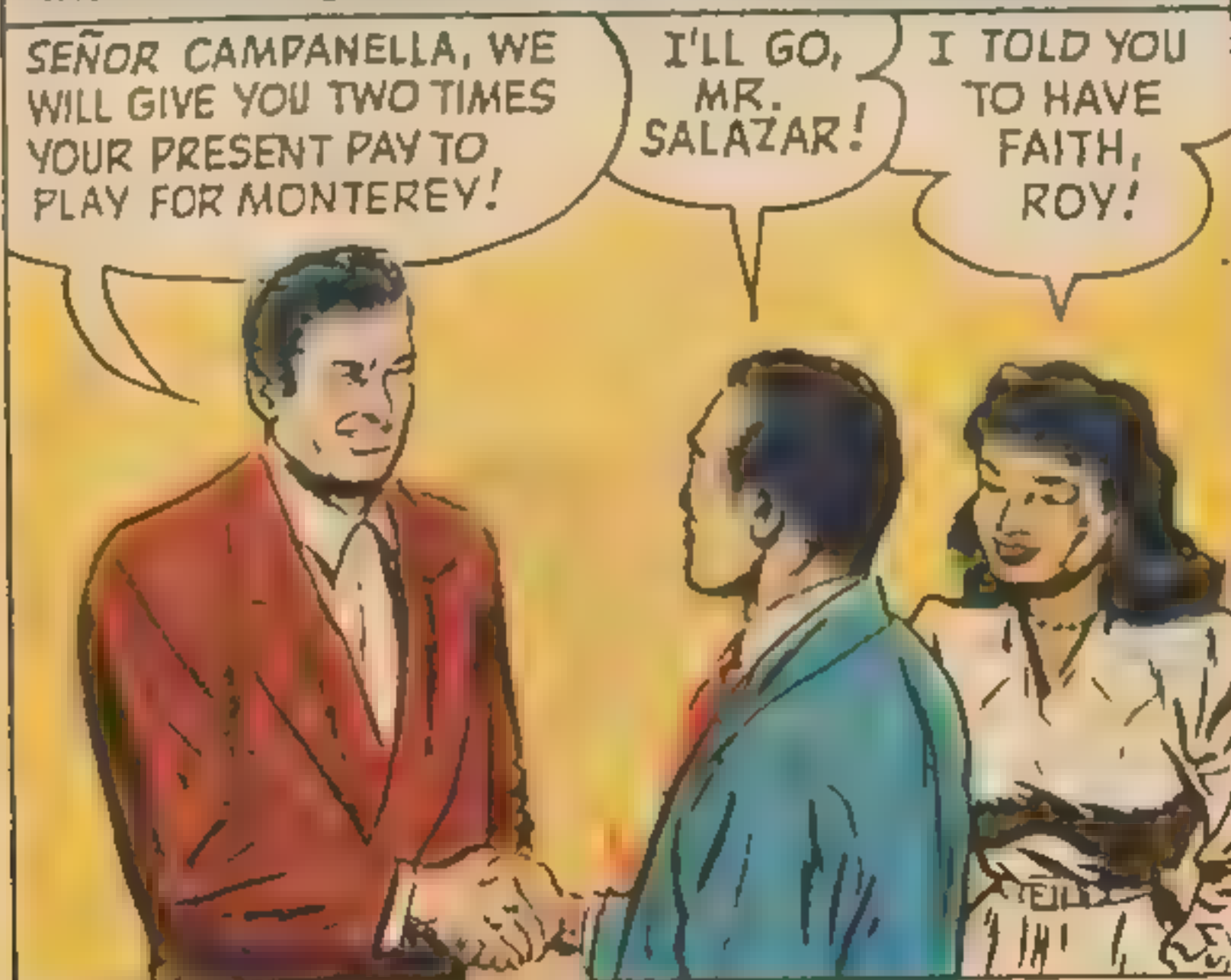


# ROY CAMPANELLA. BASEBALL HERO

Shortly after the game Roy received an urgent phone call...



The visitor was Lazaro Salazar, manager of the Monterey team in the Mexican League!

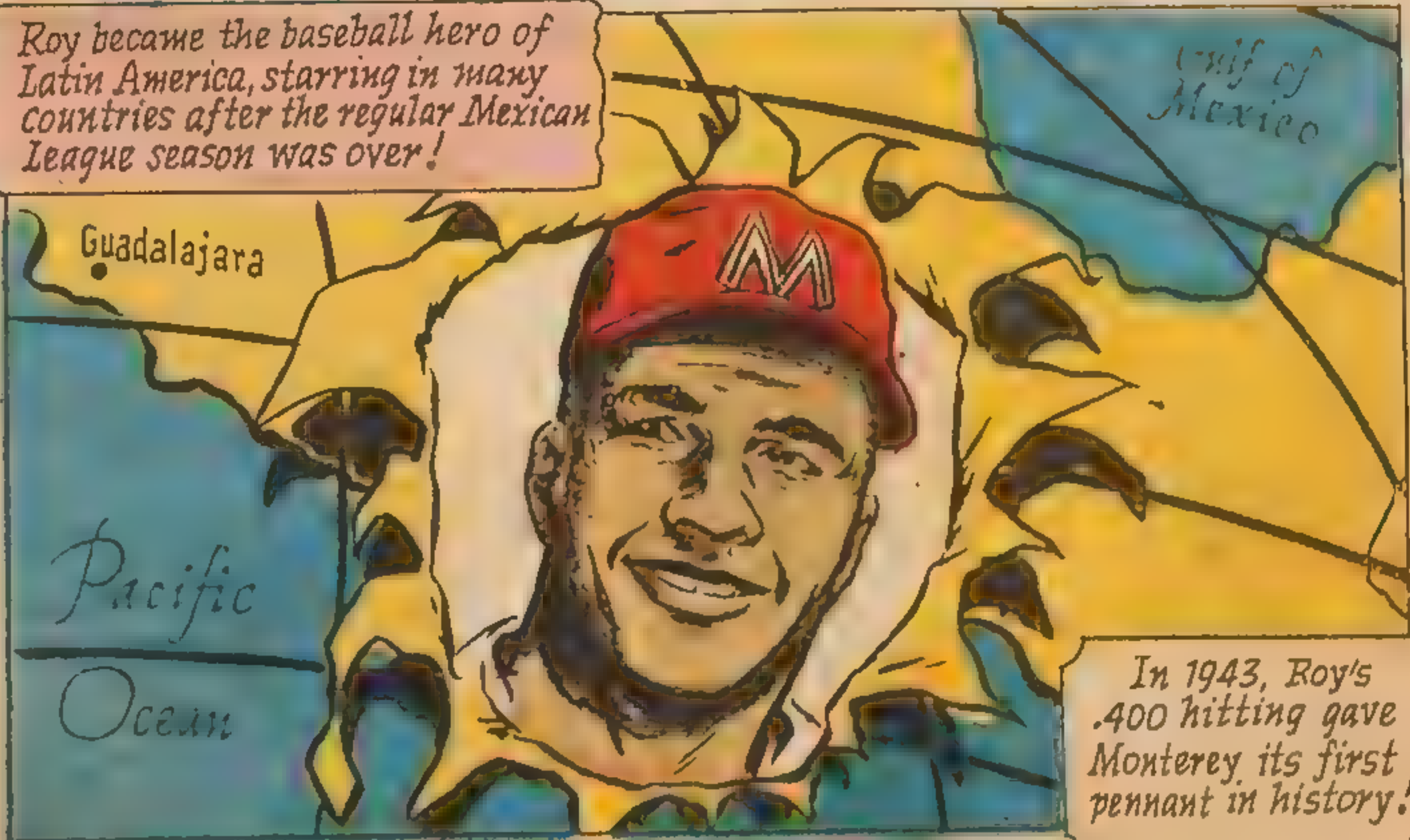


Monterey wildly acclaimed Roy as he hit two homers in one inning soon after his arrival!



Roy made seven hits in a game between Monterey and Tampico to equal a record set by Wilbert Robinson with the Baltimore Orioles in 1892!

Roy became the baseball hero of Latin America, starring in many countries after the regular Mexican League season was over!



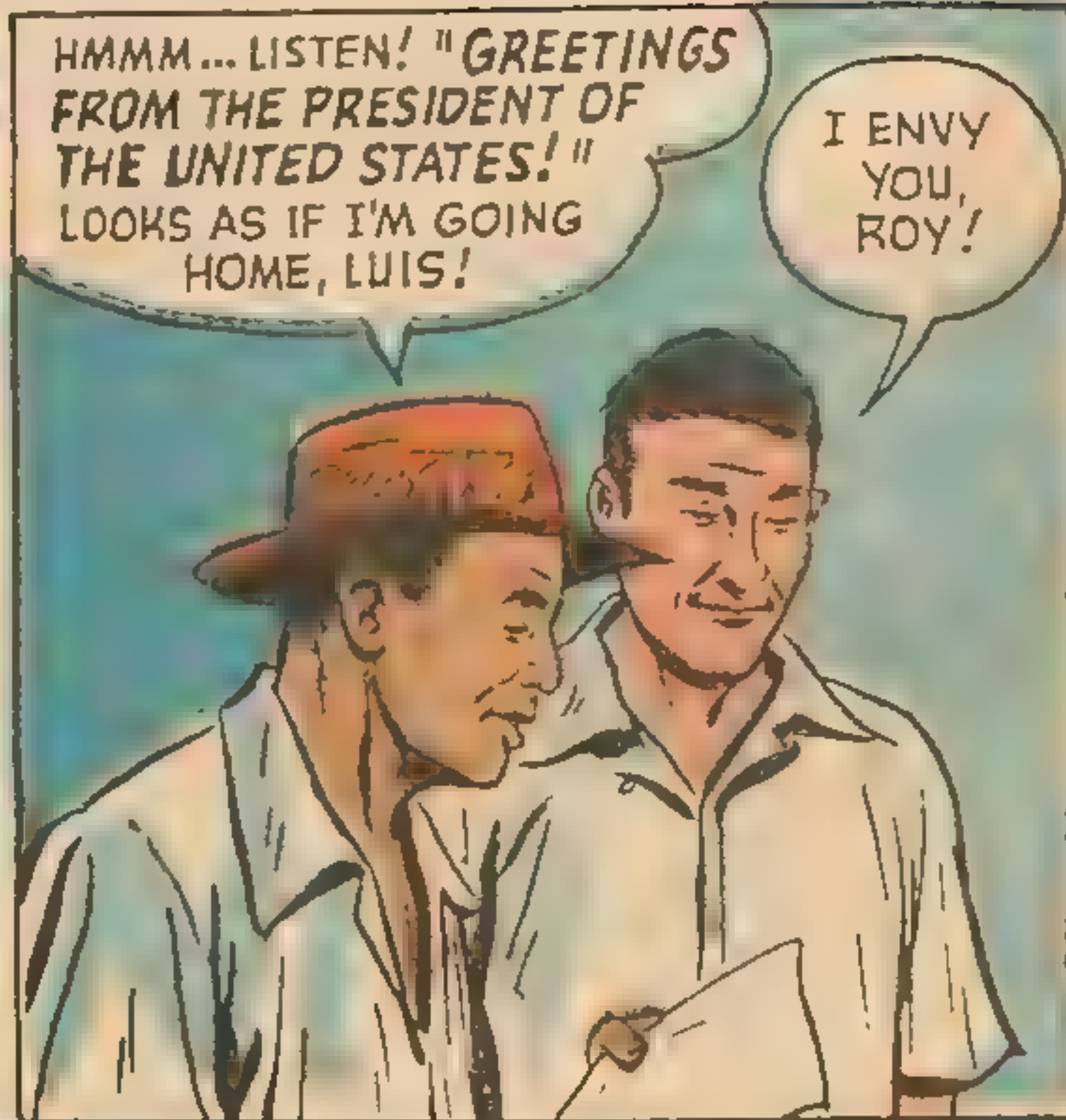
In 1943, Roy's .400 hitting gave Monterey its first pennant in history!





# ROY CAMPANELLA, BASEBALL HERO

During the winter of 1943, Roy played on a Puerto Rican team piloted by Dodger outfielder Luis Olmo!



Roy hurriedly packed his bags and flew back to Philadelphia!



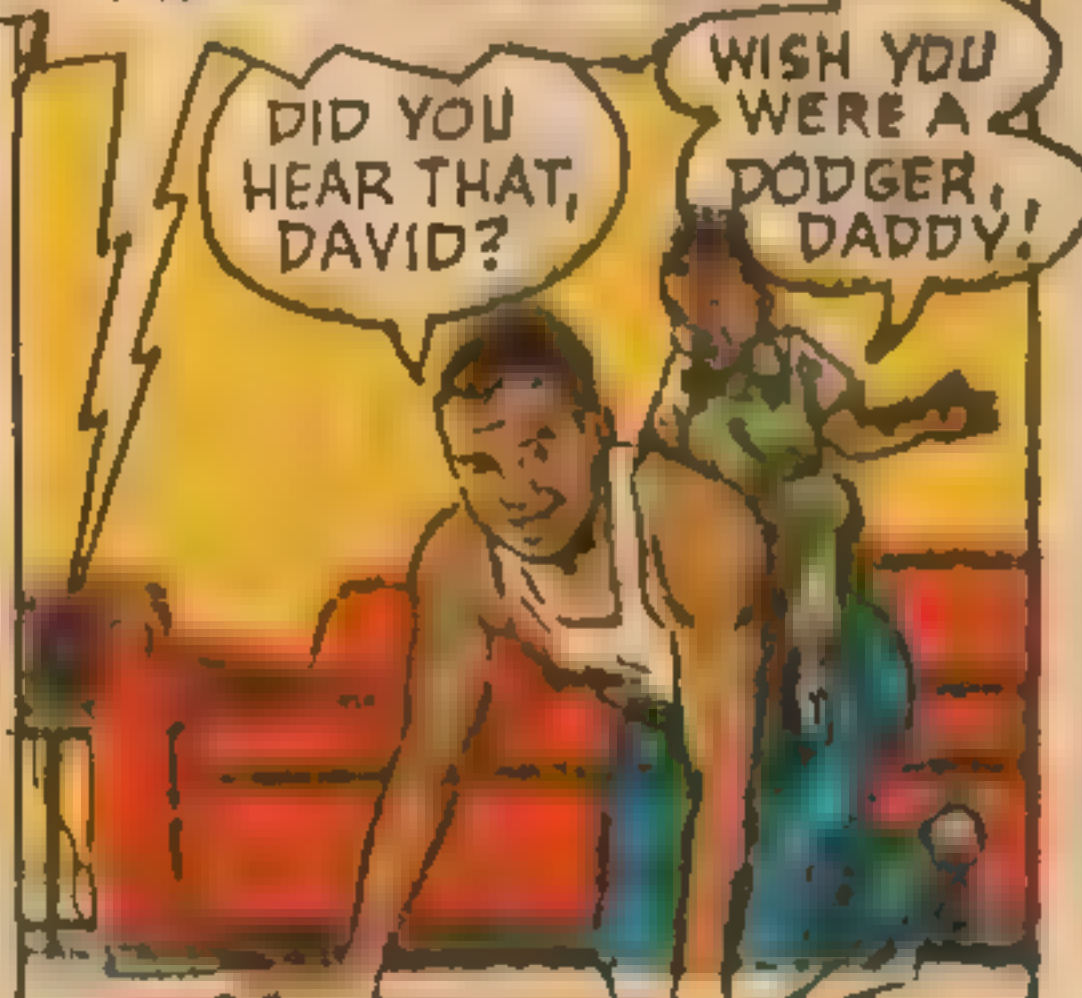
Impatiently waiting his call to arms, Roy took a job as a draftsman at the Bendix Aviation Plant in Philadelphia!



Weeks, months passed! At Bendix's plea, Roy was reclassified as 3A! On weekends he again played ball with the Elite Giants and after VJ Day, became a regular!

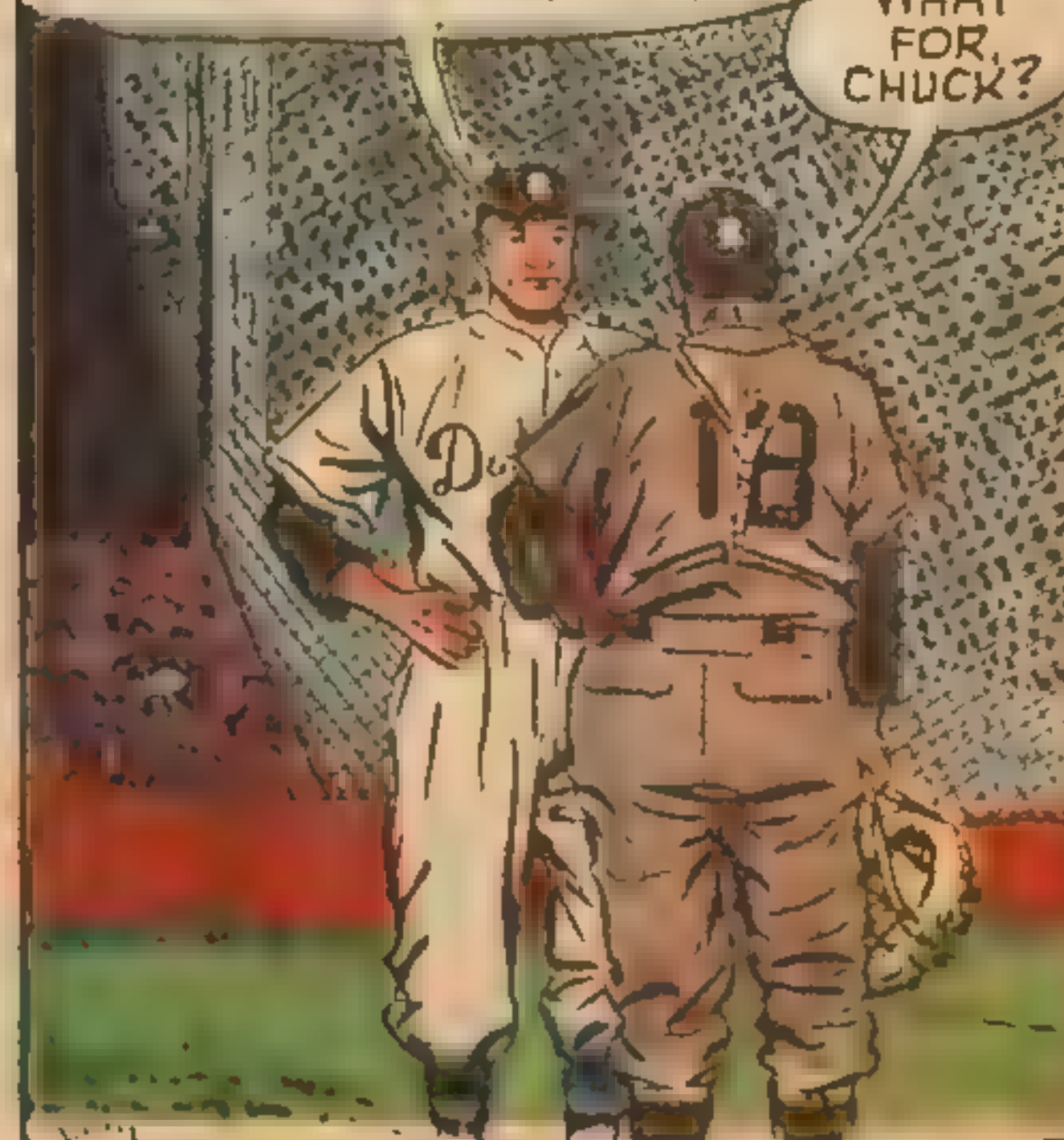
At his Philadelphia home that September in 1945...

**BULLETIN! THE BROOKLYN DODGERS HAVE SIGNED JACKIE ROBINSON! HE WILL BE THE FIRST NEGRO IN THE BIG LEAGUES!**



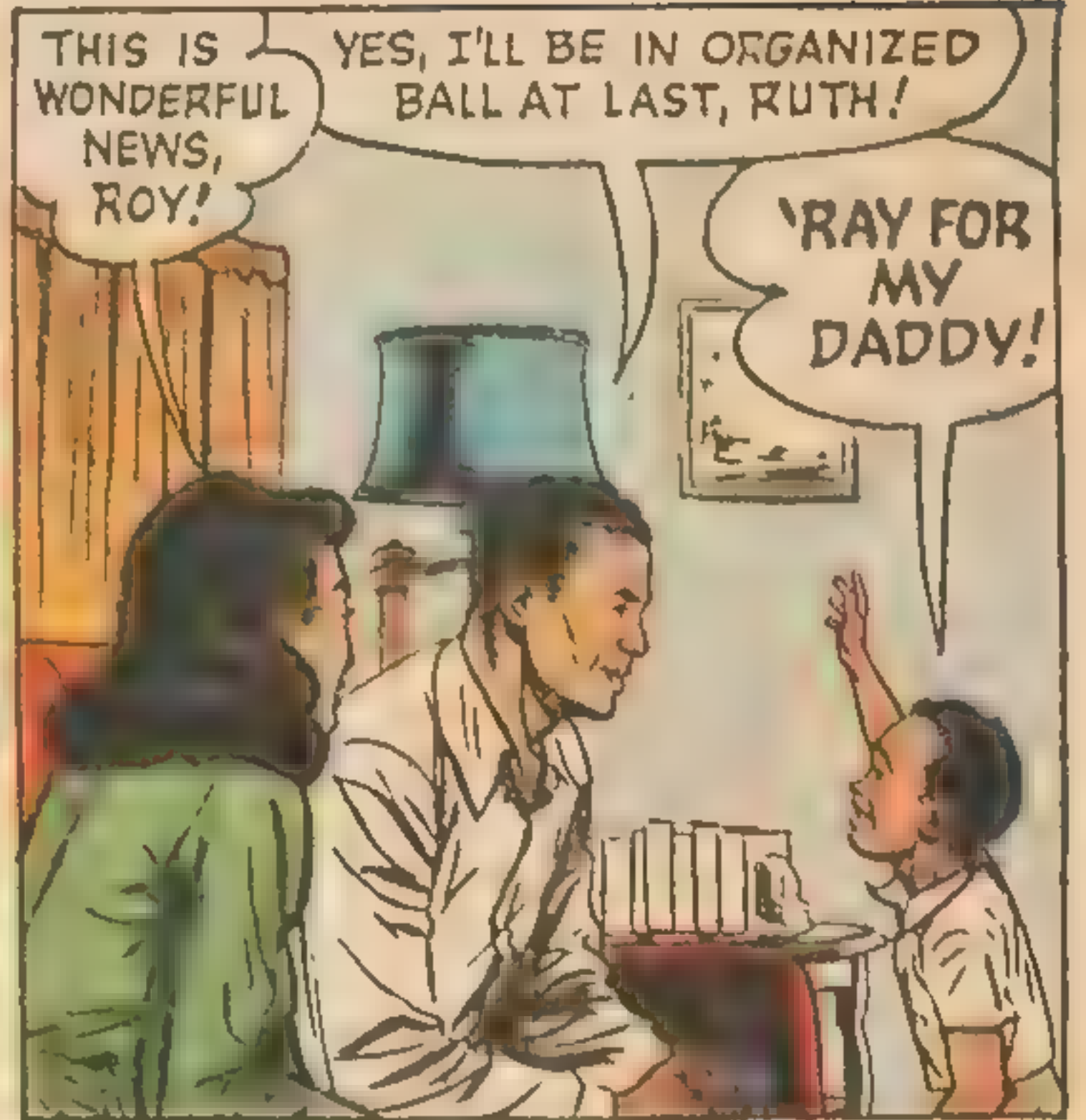
Jackie's signing thrilled the baseball world! During an All-Star Negro-White game at Ebbets Field that Sunday, Dodger coach Chuck Dressen approached Roy!

CAN YOU COME TO THE DODGER OFFICE TOMORROW, ROY?





# ROY CAMPANELLA, BASEBALL HERO



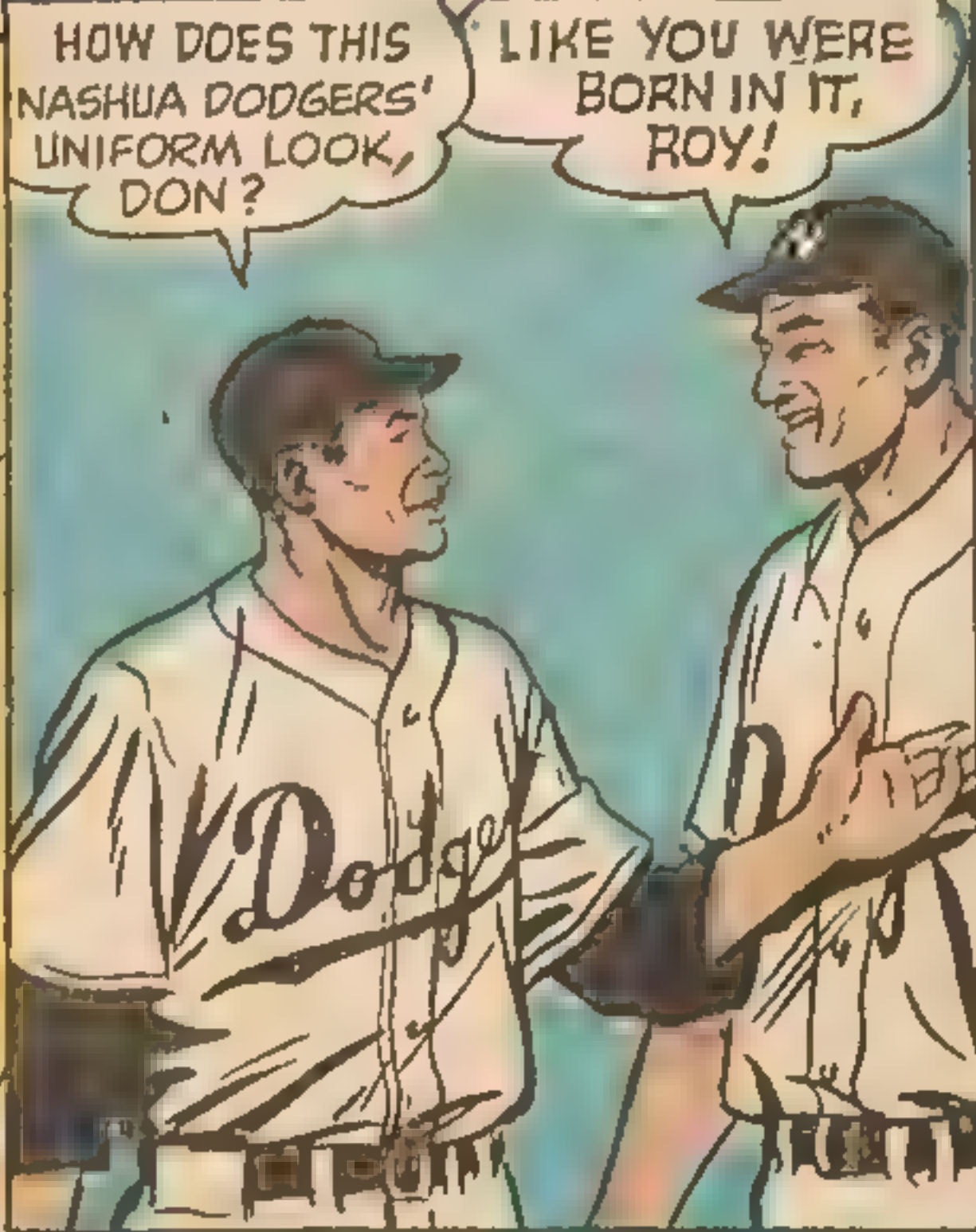
Roy managed the Caracas team that winter. On March 1, 1946, he received a cable: "Report my office at once. Branch Rickey." He flew to Brooklyn that night. The following morning...



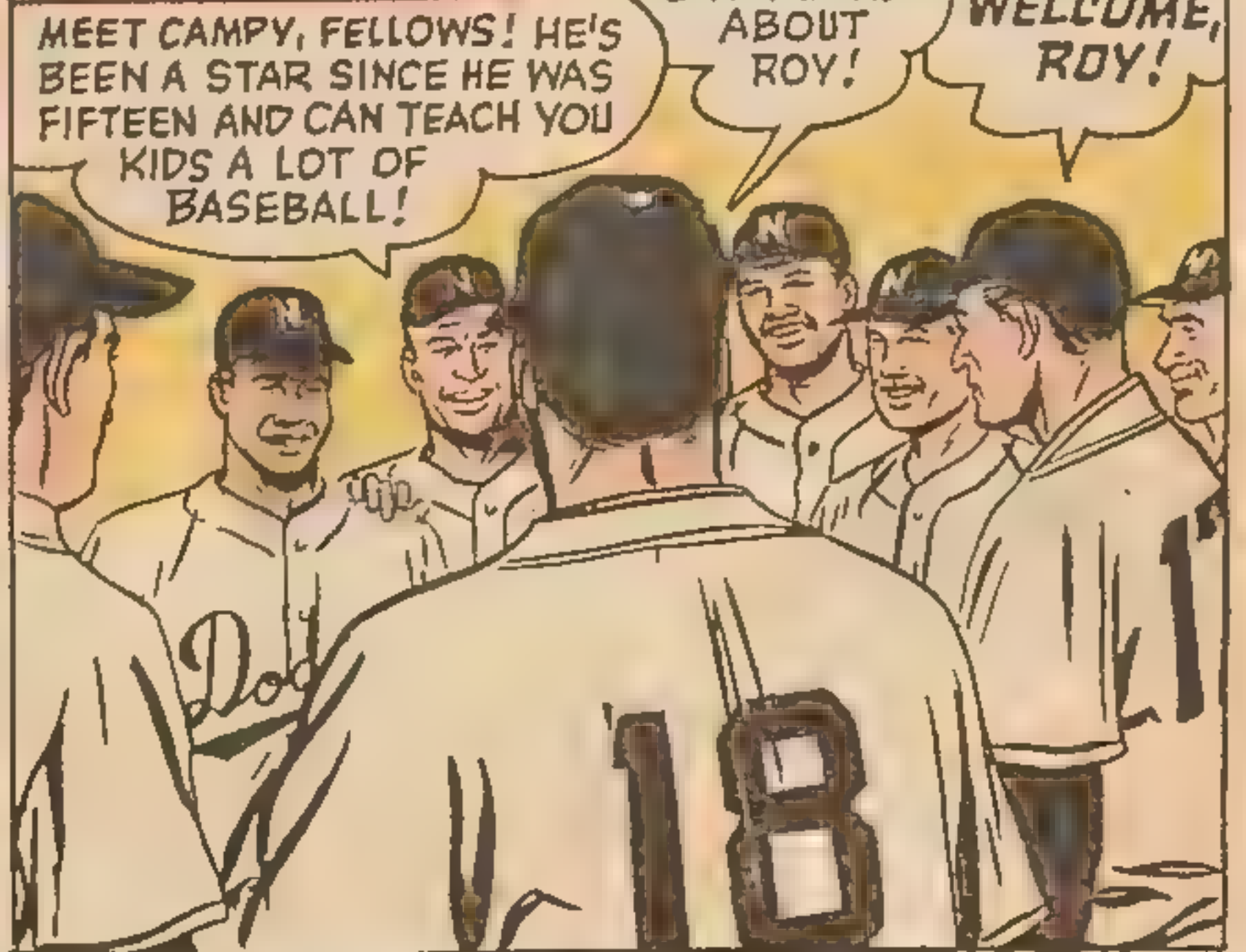


# ROY CAMPANELLA, BASEBALL HERO

In Nashua Roy was warmly greeted by Don Newcombe, former fireball flash of the Negro National League!



Manager Walter Alston introduced Roy to his new teammates!



Roy's hard hitting and Don's sensational twirling soon lifted Nashua into first place! In a fiercely contested game against powerful Lynn, Roy tried to stretch a double...

As Roy scrambled to his feet, Manager Alston tore out of the Nashua dugout and charged at the umpire!

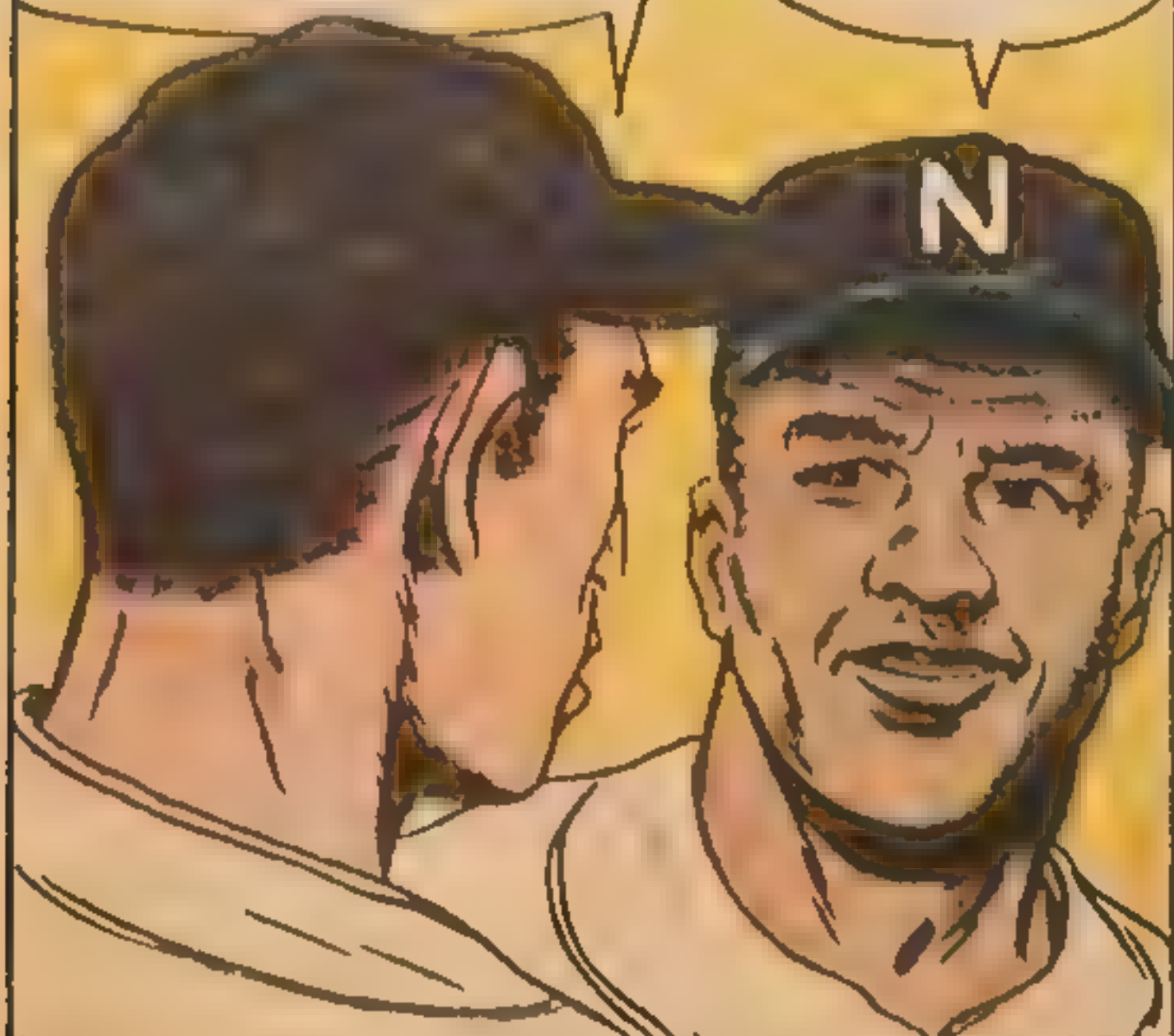


**OUT!**

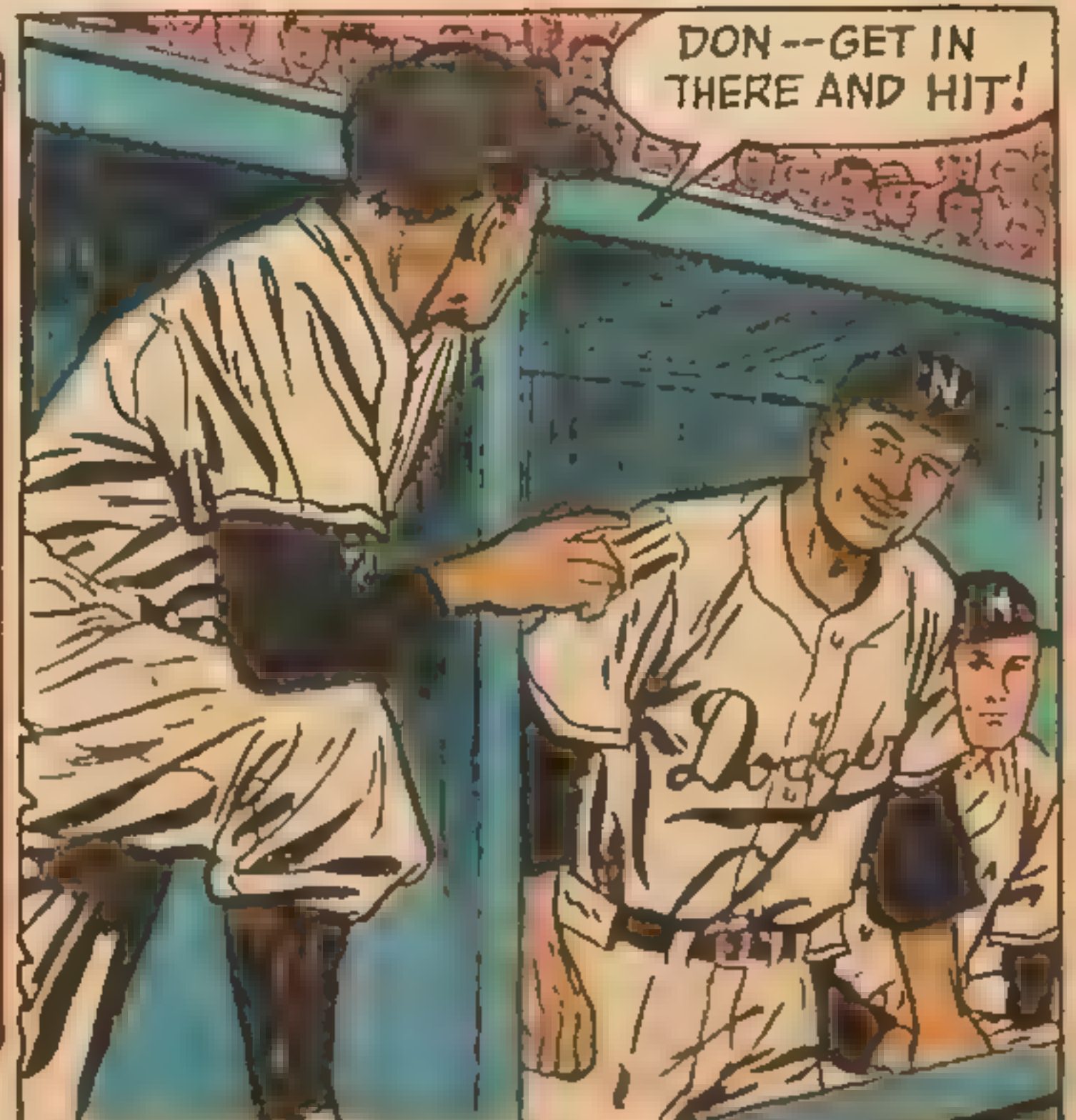


WE NEED THIS GAME BAD, ROY! TAKE OVER THE TEAM FOR ME TODAY!

YES, SIR! I'LL DO MY BEST, MR. ALSTON!

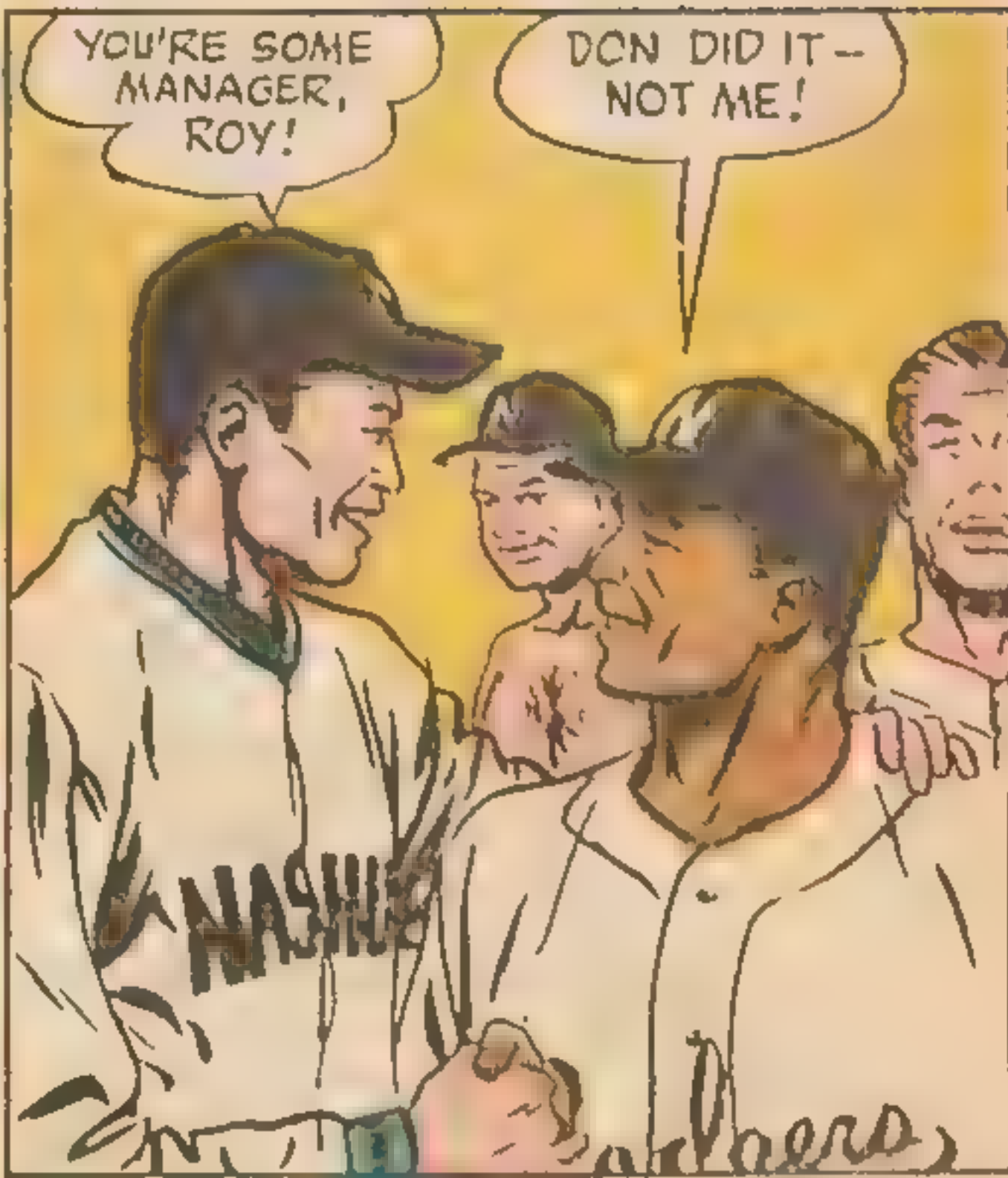
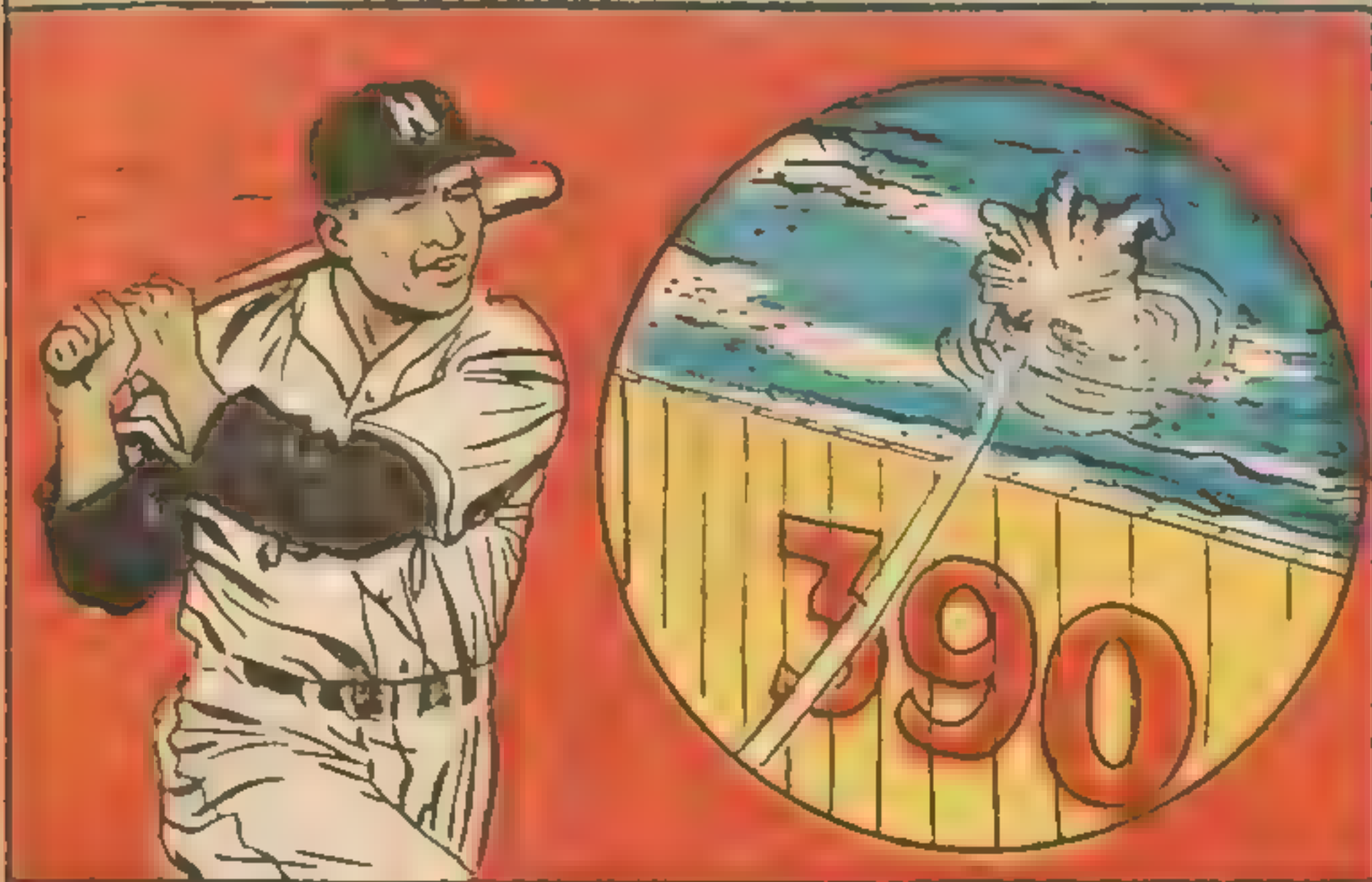


Trailing 5 to 3 in the ninth, Roy glanced at the line-up! With two out and two men on base, his weak-hitting pitcher was up next! What should he do?

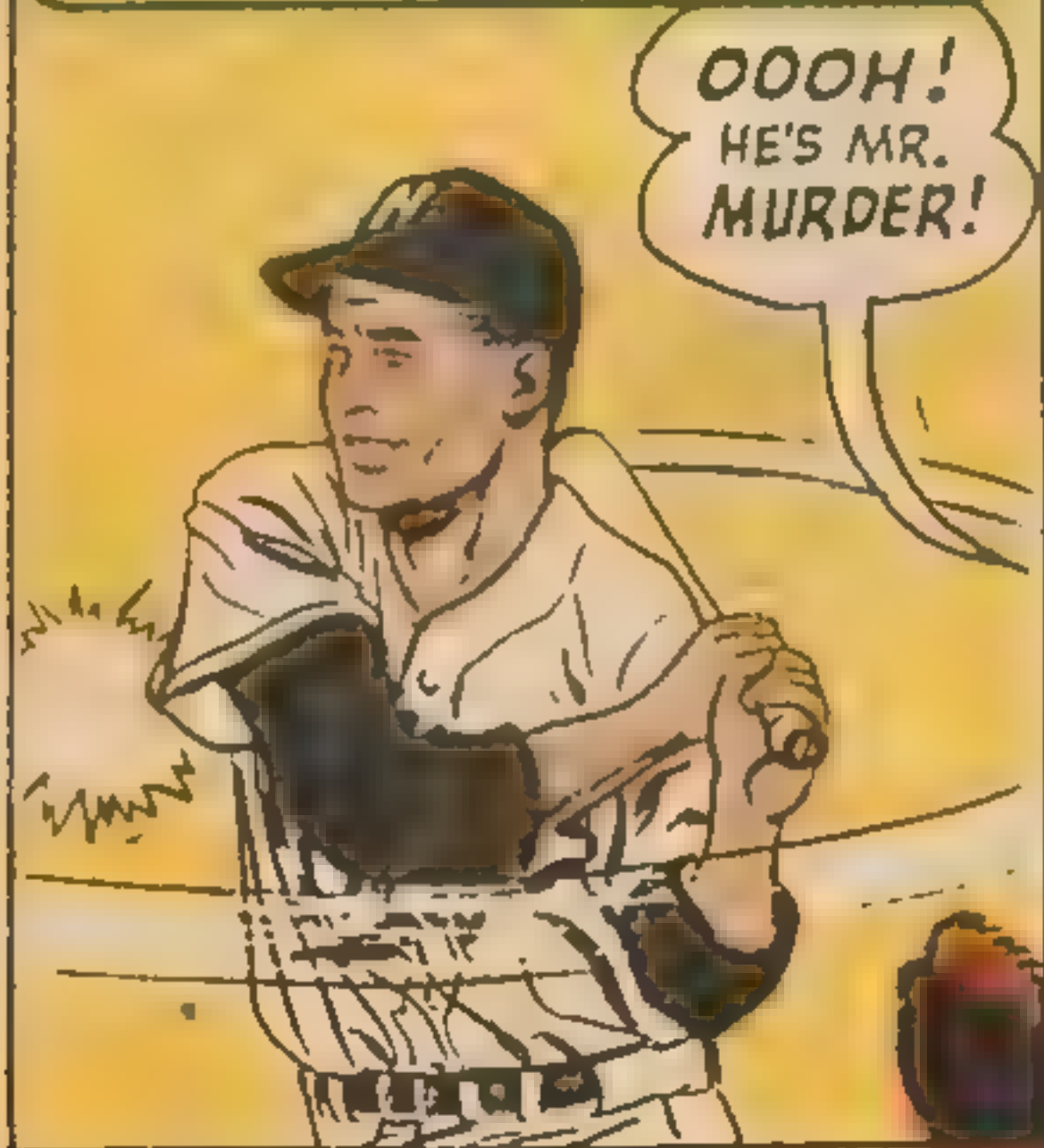




**B**ig, six-foot-four Don saw a fast ball coming and met it head, slamming a game-winning home run into the river beyond the right-field fence!



As the season progressed, Roy's mighty bat terrorized enemy hurlers!



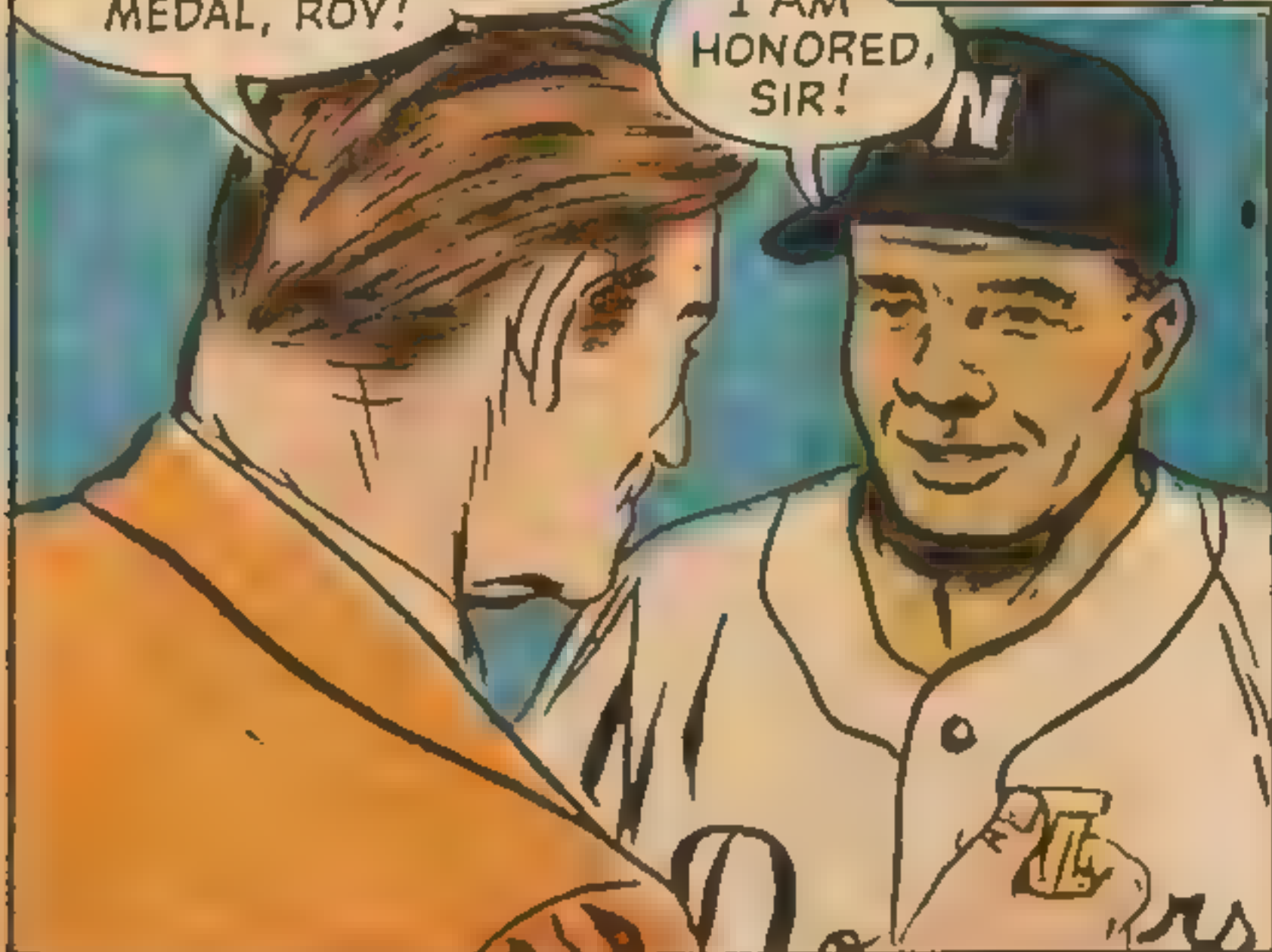
Nashua crushed Lynn in the Governor's Cup play-offs as Roy batted .414, leading both clubs!



After the final game...

I AWARD YOU THE LEAGUE'S MOST VALUABLE PLAYER MEDAL, ROY!

I AM HONORED, SIR!

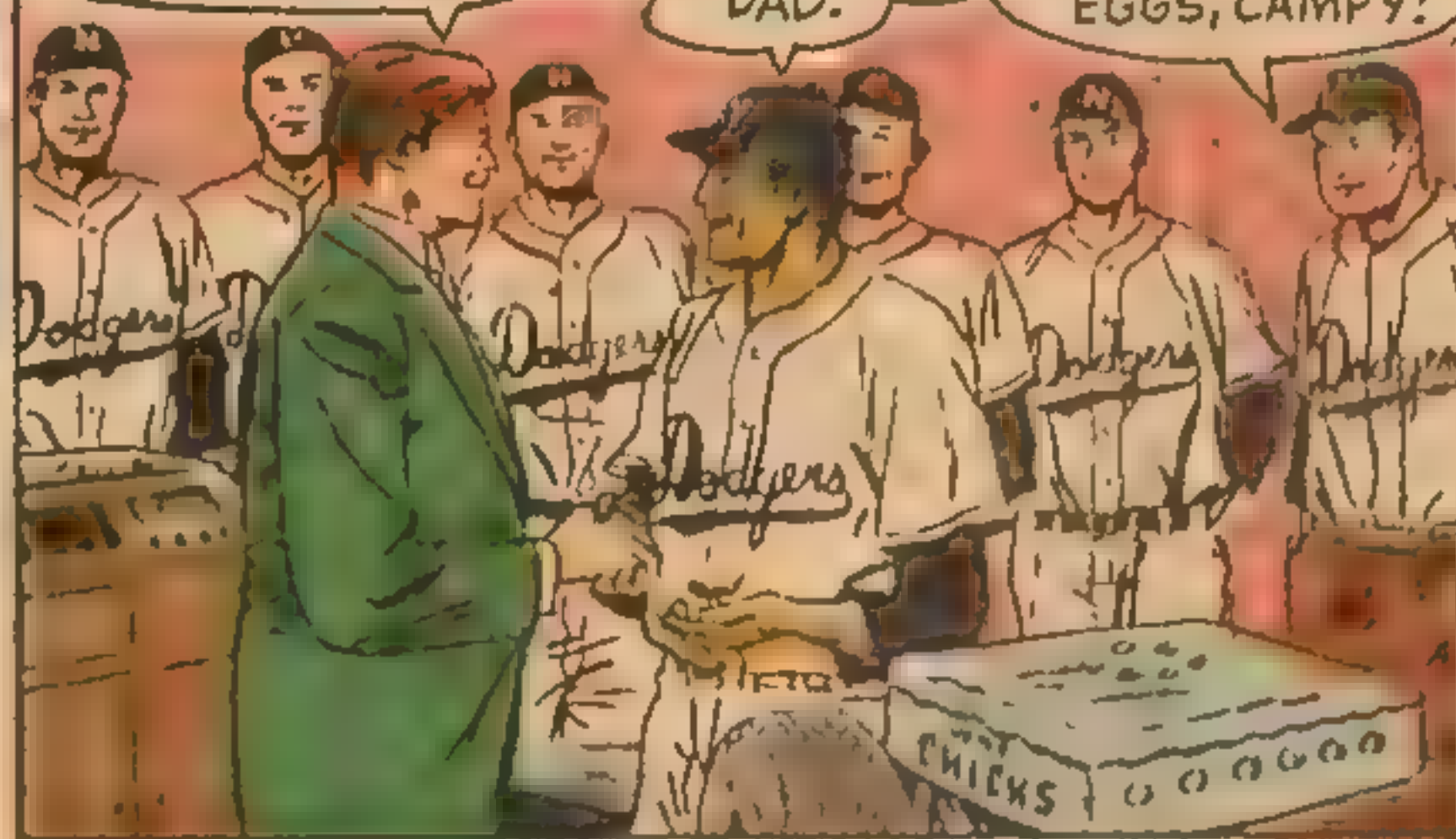


Nashua showered gifts on its hero, Roy Campanella!

EVERYTHING NASHUA HAS IS YOURS, ROY!

I'LL GIVE THESE CHICKS TO MY DAD!

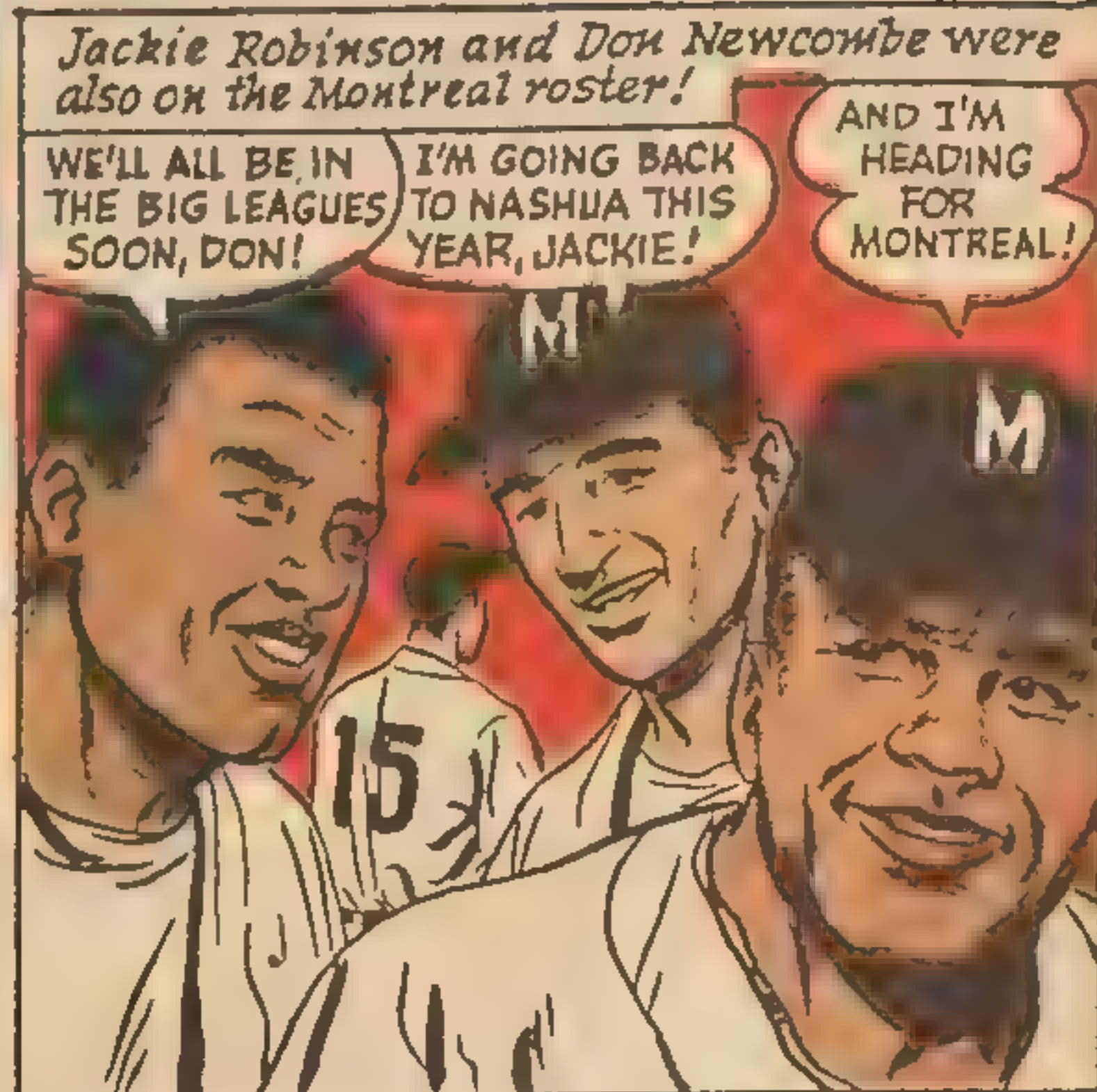
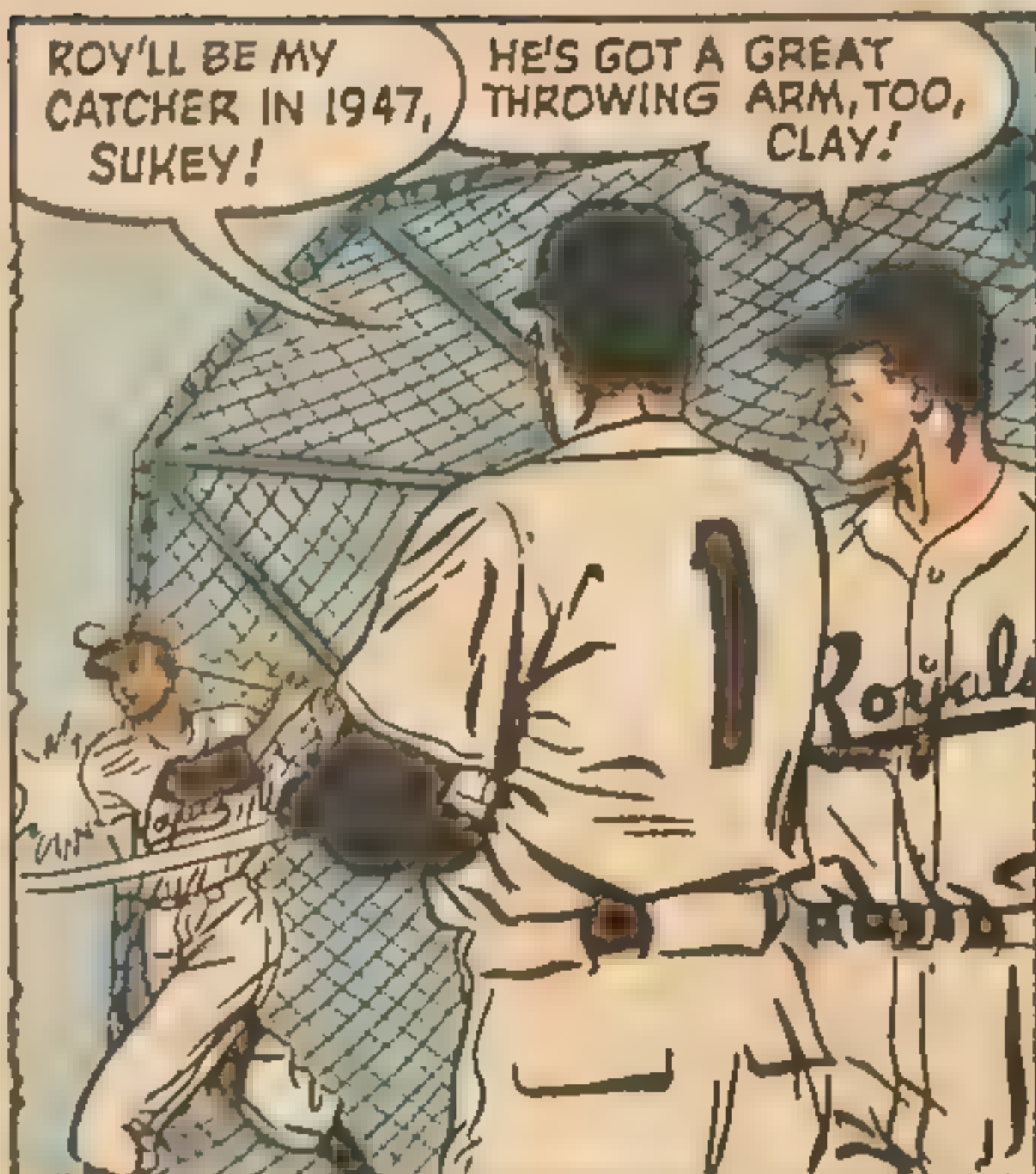
YOU'LL HAVE PLENTY OF FRESH EGGS, CAMPY!



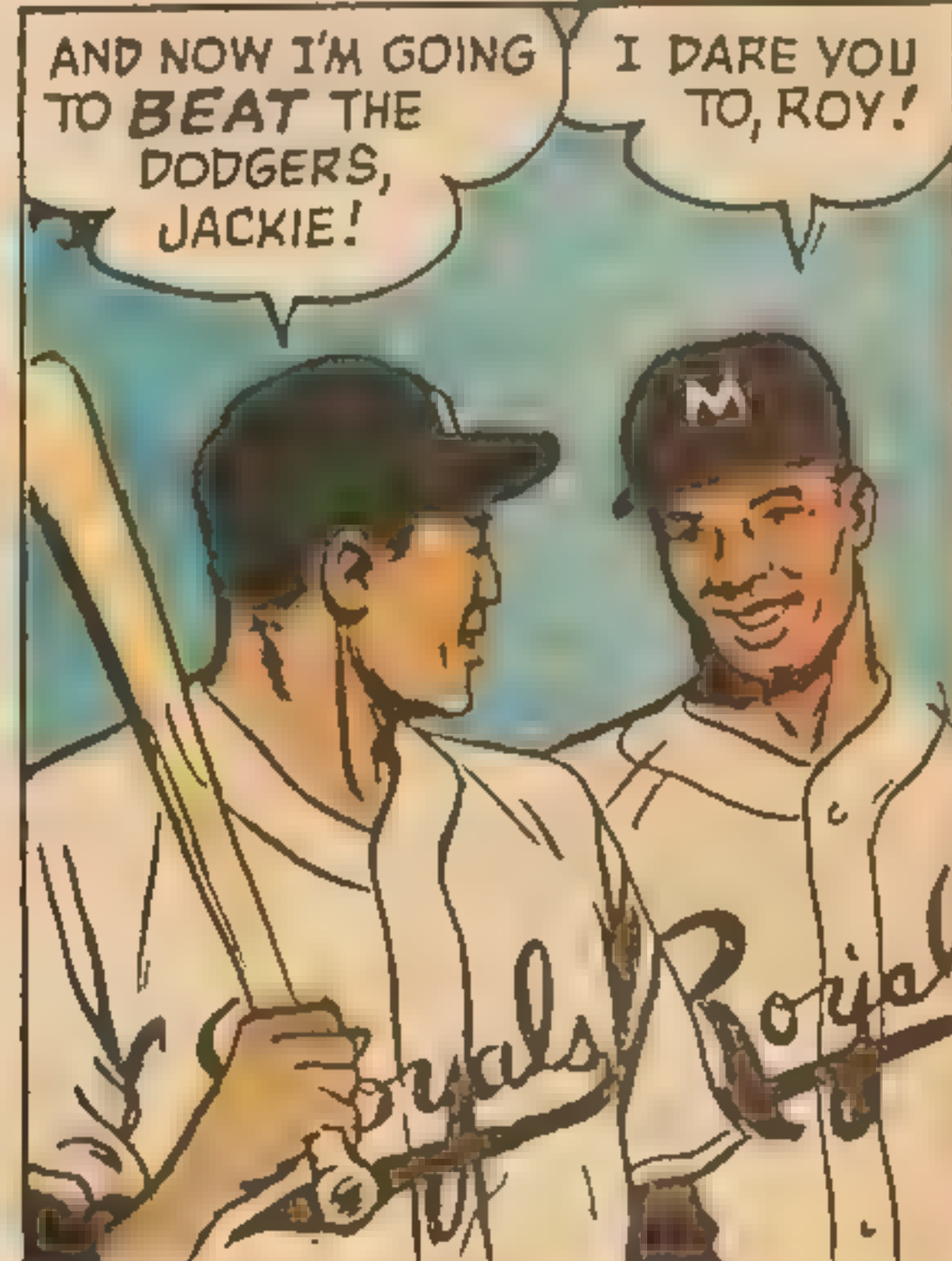


# ROY CAMPANELLA, BASEBALL HERO

After playing winter ball in Venezuela, Roy reported to the Montreal Royals at Havana in March 1947! Manager Clay Hopper and Coach Clyde Sukeforth watched him train!



On stopping off at Ebbetts Field on the way north for an exhibition game against the Dodgers on April 9, 1947, Jackie Robinson went hitless the first two times at bat! In the fifth inning, he hit into a double play! As he disgustedly returned to the bench, his teammates greeted him as though he had just hit a home run!



With the Dodgers leading by one run, the next Royal batter walked! Then Roy whistled a double to left, scoring two mates! And the Royals won, 4 to 3!



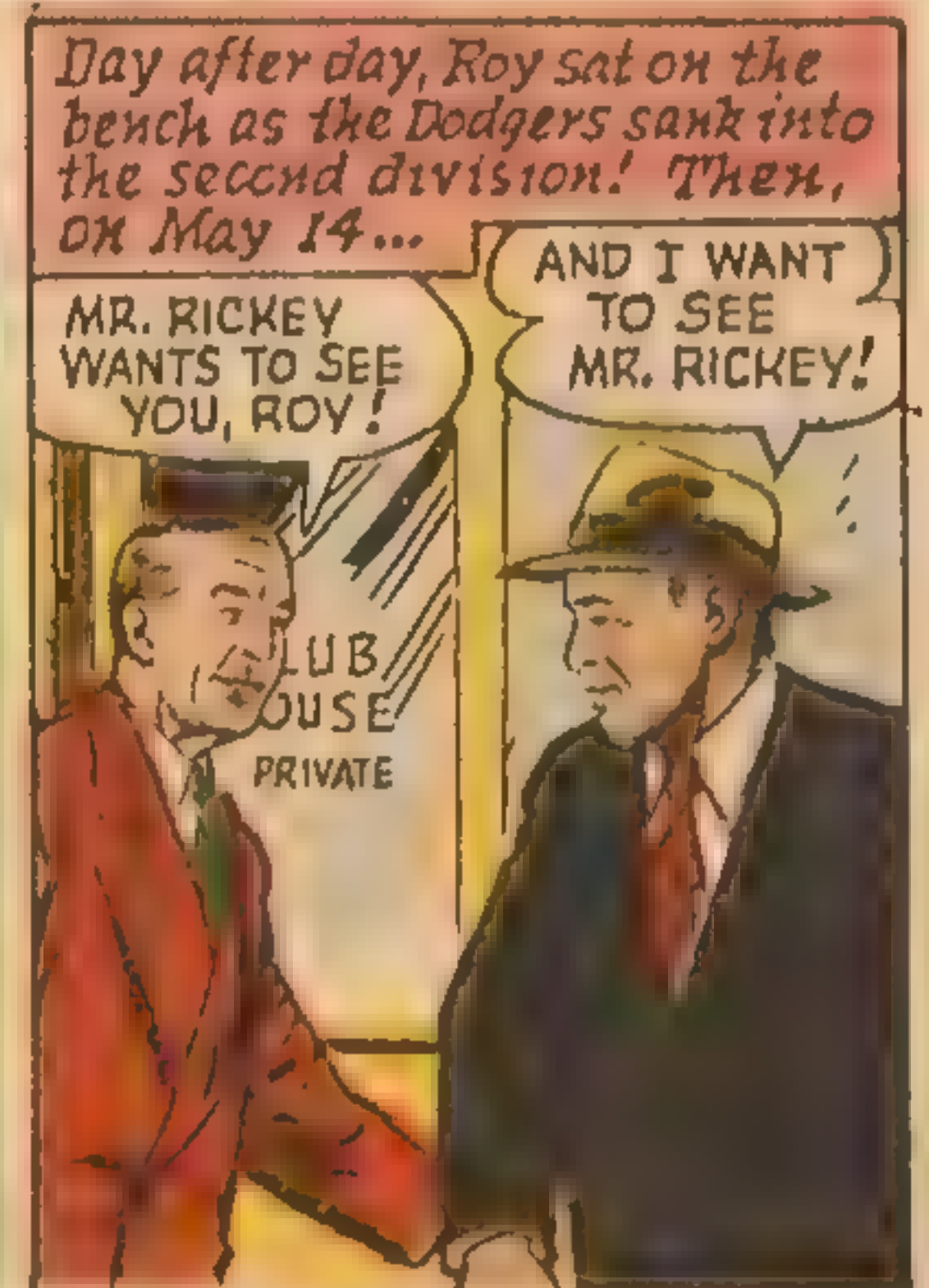
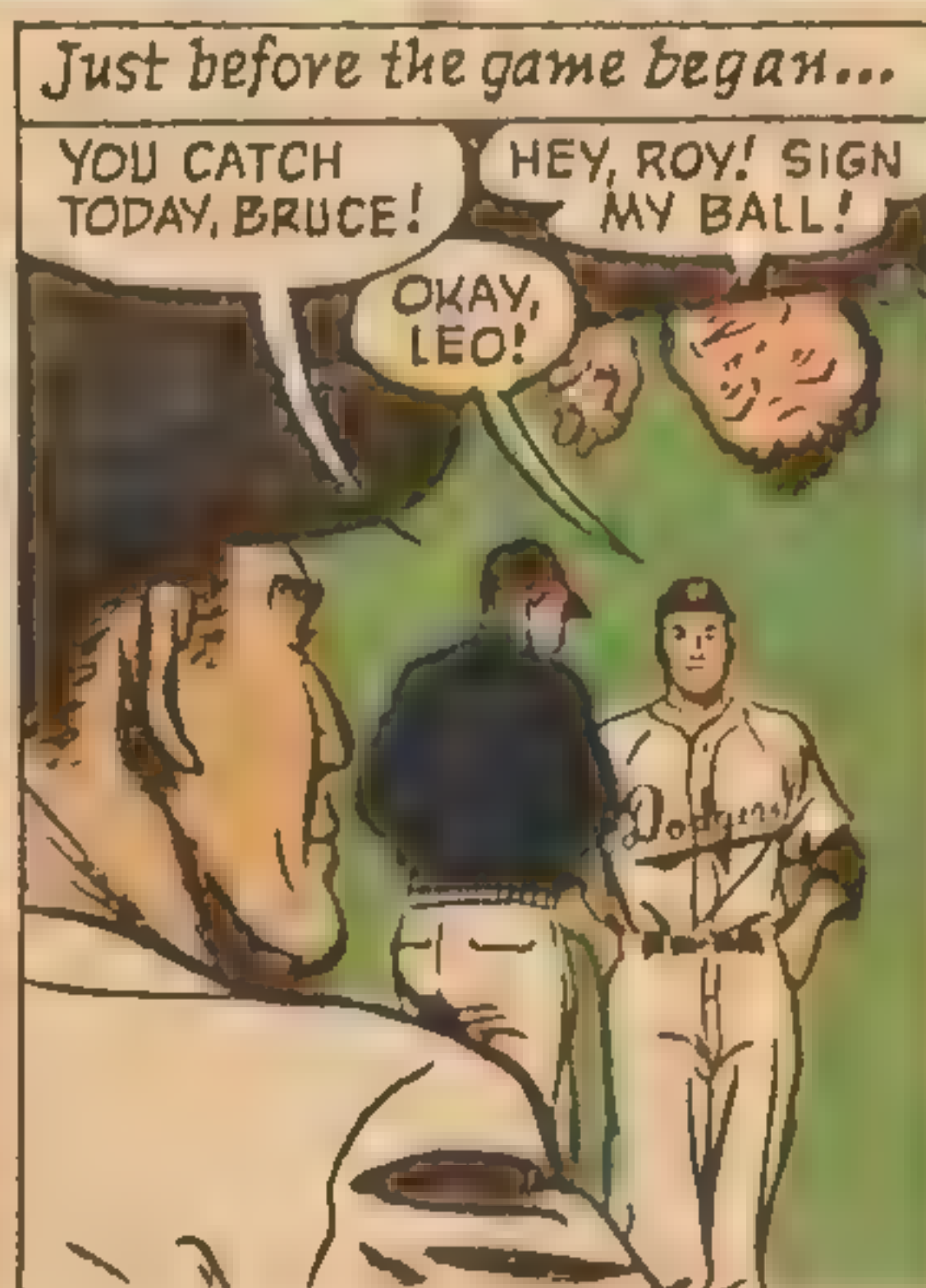
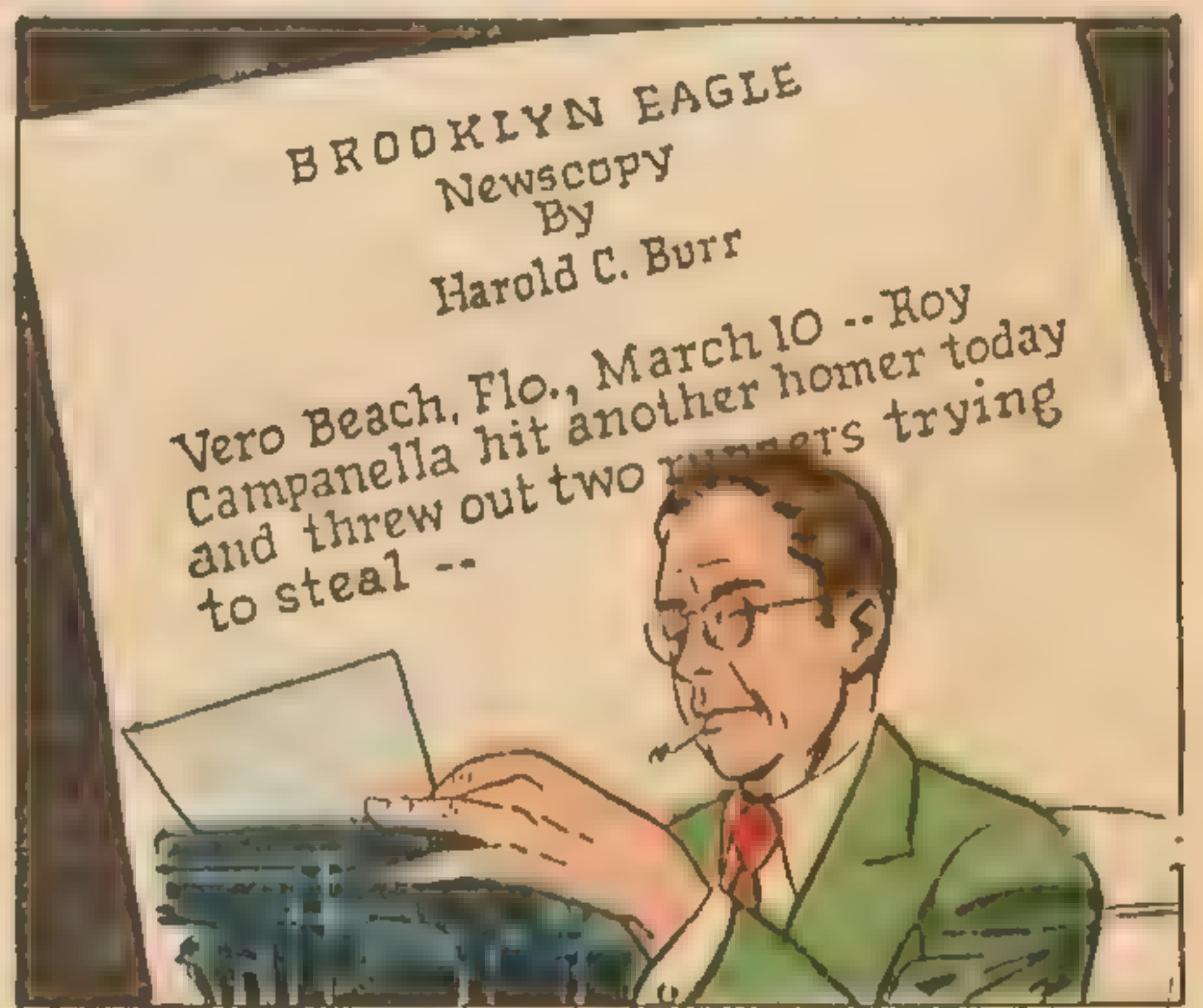
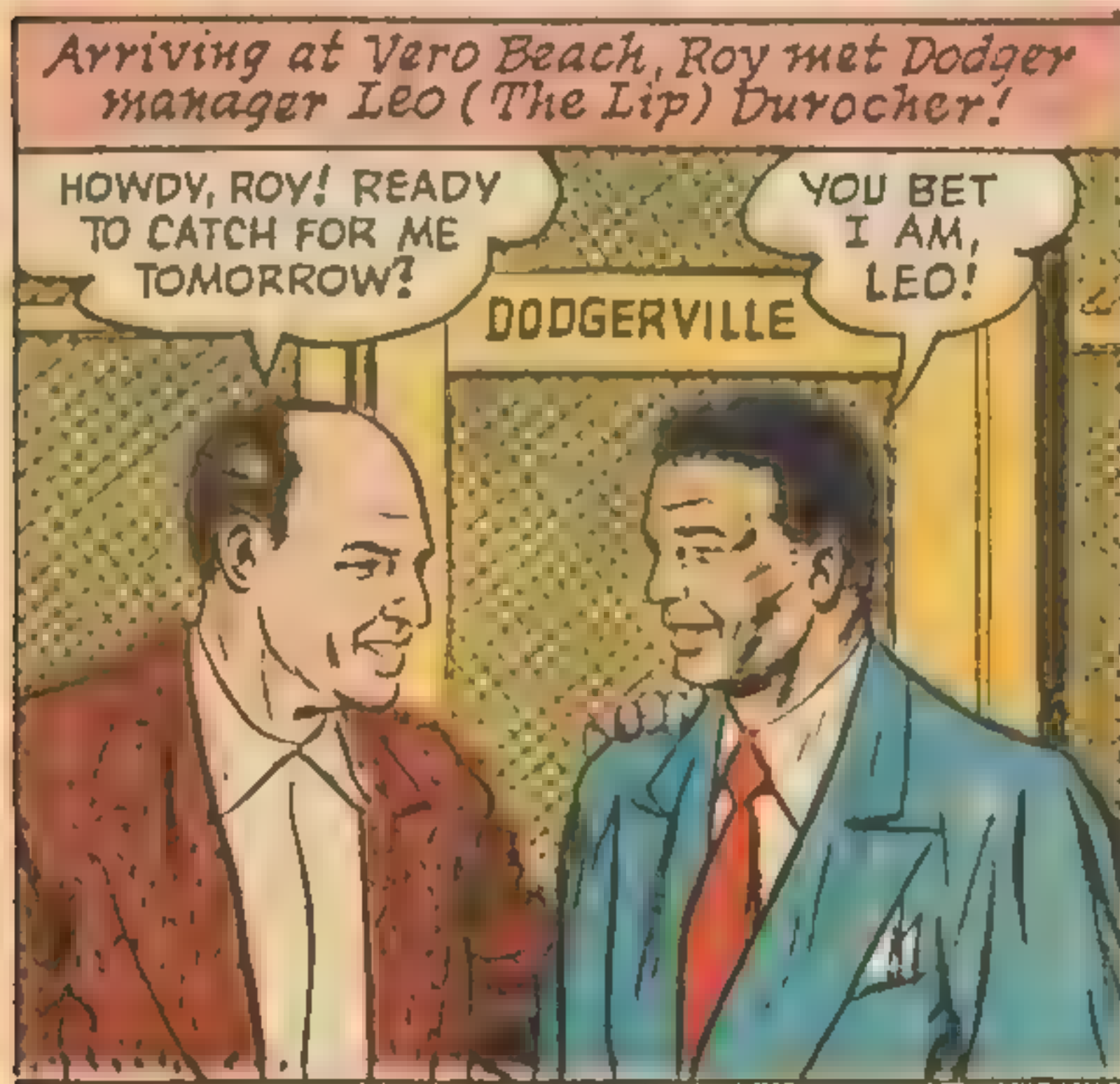
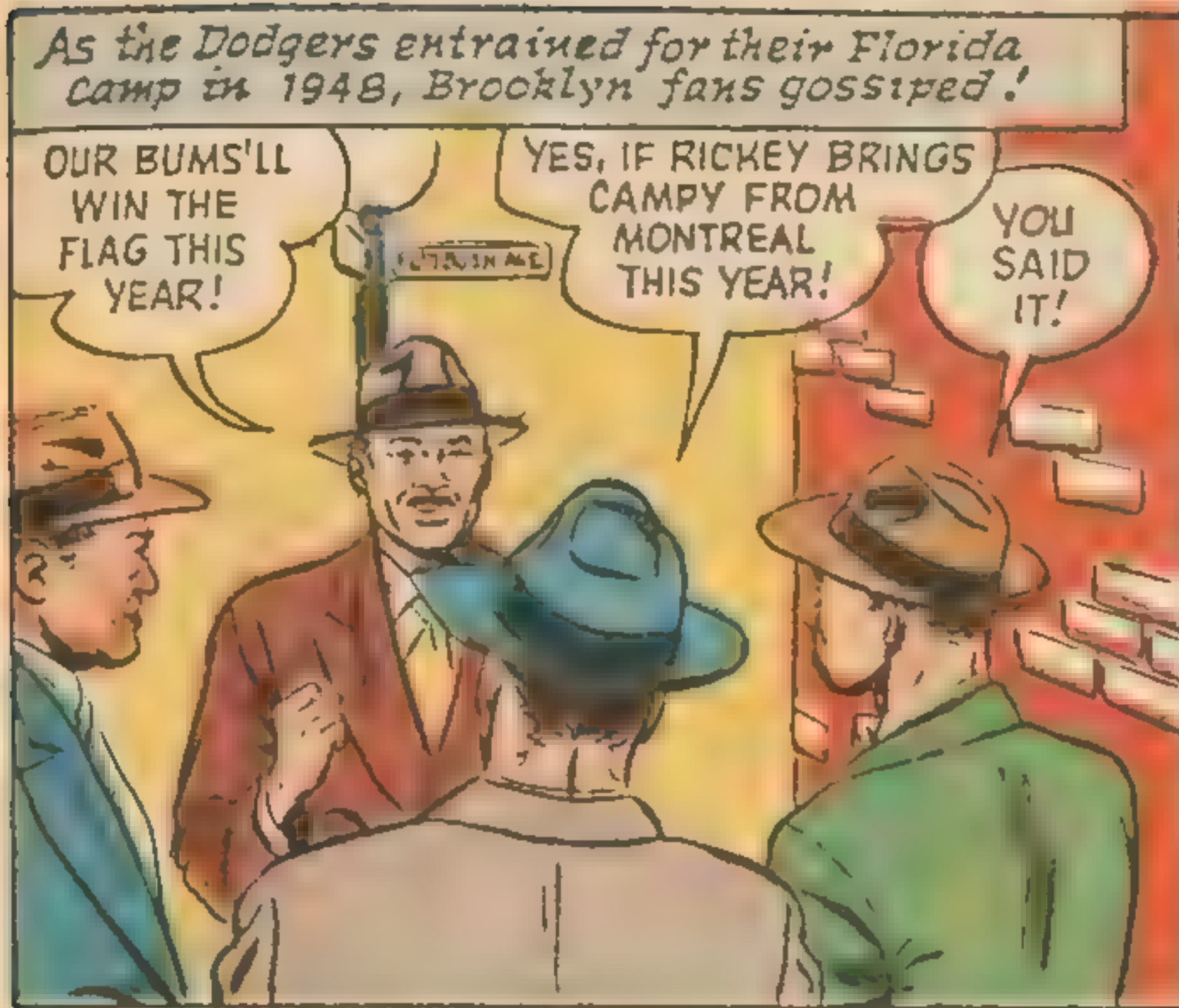
## Roy's Record at Montreal in 1947:

Batting Average	.273
Home Runs	13
Runs Batted In	75
Fielding	.988

As in every other year of his baseball career, Roy was on the All-star Team and in the league playoffs!



# ROY CAMPANELLA. BASEBALL HERO



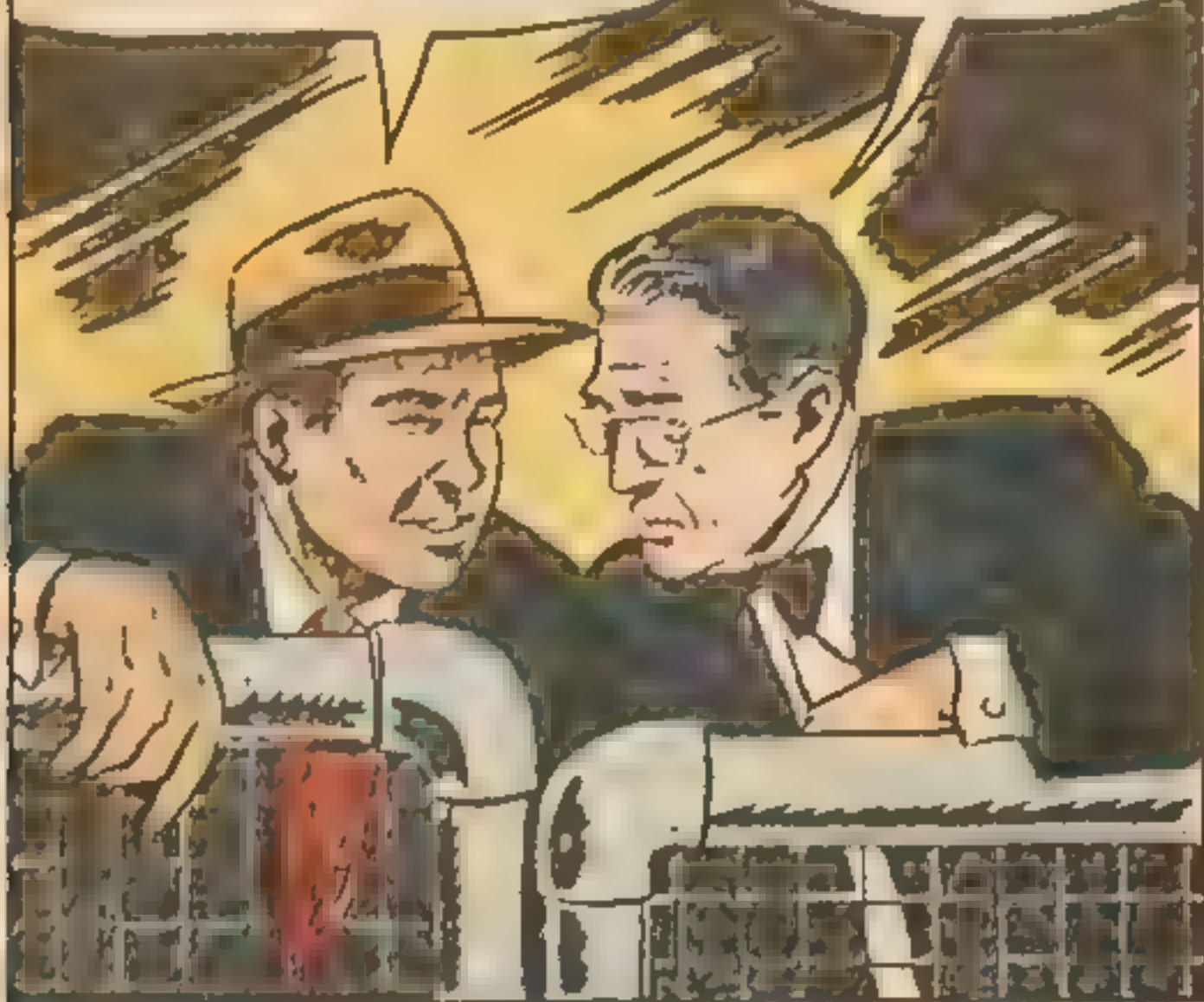


# ROY CAMPANELLA, BASEBALL HERO

Roy found Mr. Rickey in his private mezzanine box...

WHY HAVEN'T I BEEN PLAYING, MR. RICKEY? I'M IN GREAT SHAPE!

I KNOW HOW YOU FEEL, ROY! THAT'S WHY I SENT FOR YOU!



I HAVE AN IMPORTANT JOB FOR YOU, ROY! NO NEGRO HAS EVER PLAYED IN THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION! NOW ST. PAUL HAS AGREED TO SIGN YOU! WILL YOU GO?

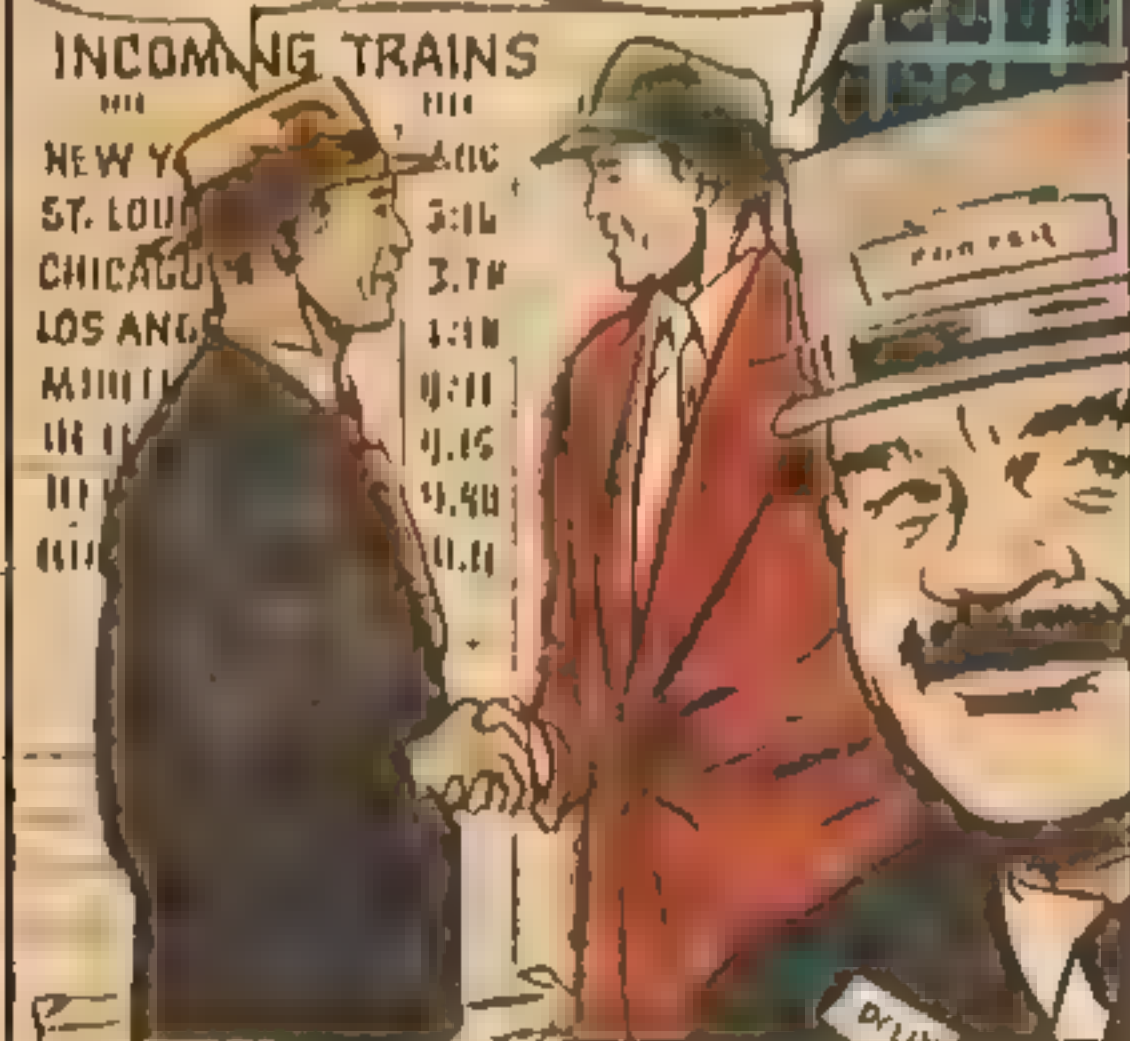
IF I CAN HELP IN THIS FIGHT--YES, MR. RICKEY!



In St. Paul, Roy was greeted by Walter Alston, his old Nashua pilot and now the Saints' manager!

I'M RARING TO GO, WALTER!

IT WON'T BE EASY, ROY! THE LEAGUE'S STIRRED UP ABOUT YOU!



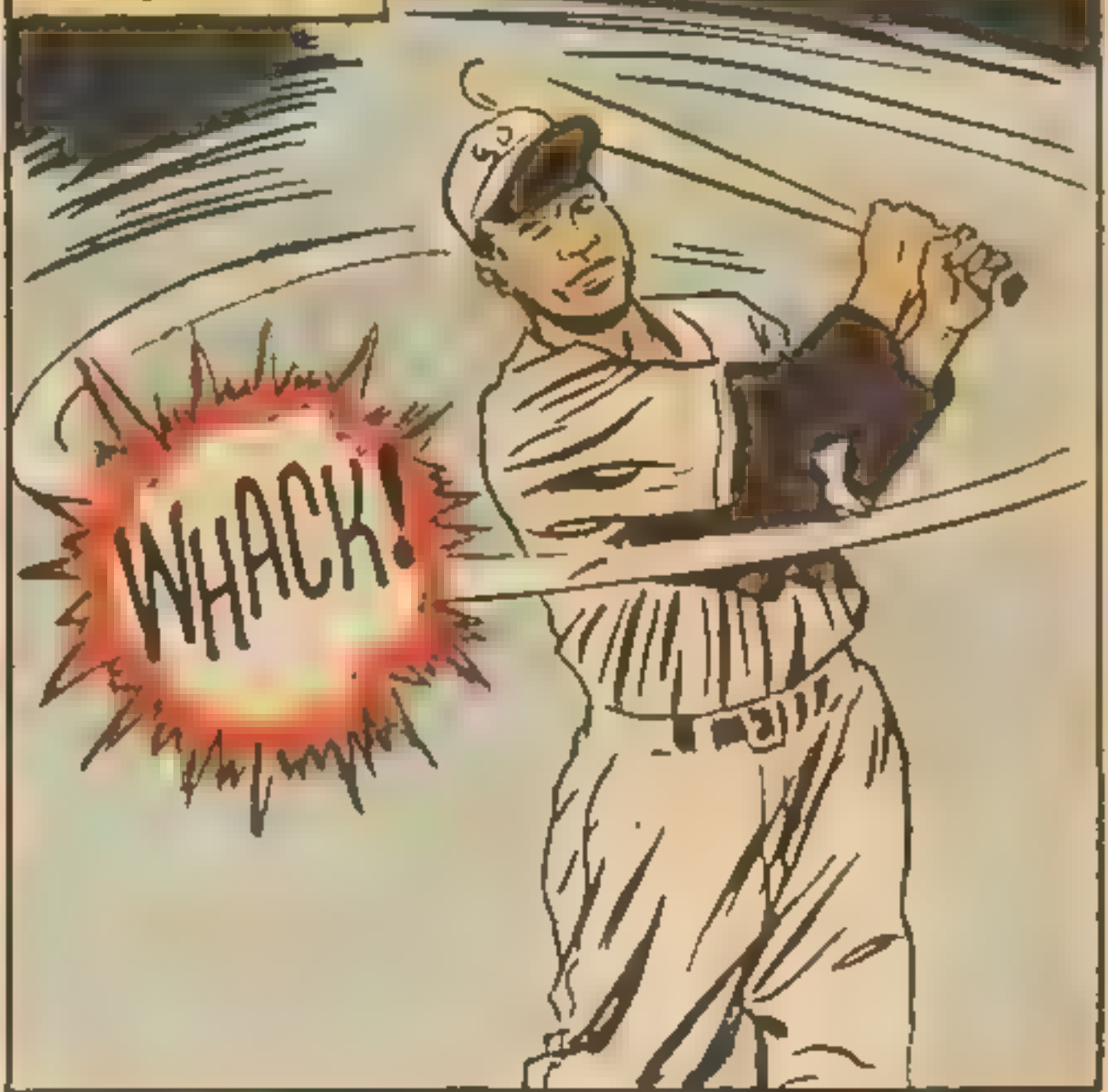
Roy ignored taunts and jibes!

BACK TO BROOKLYN, YA BUM!

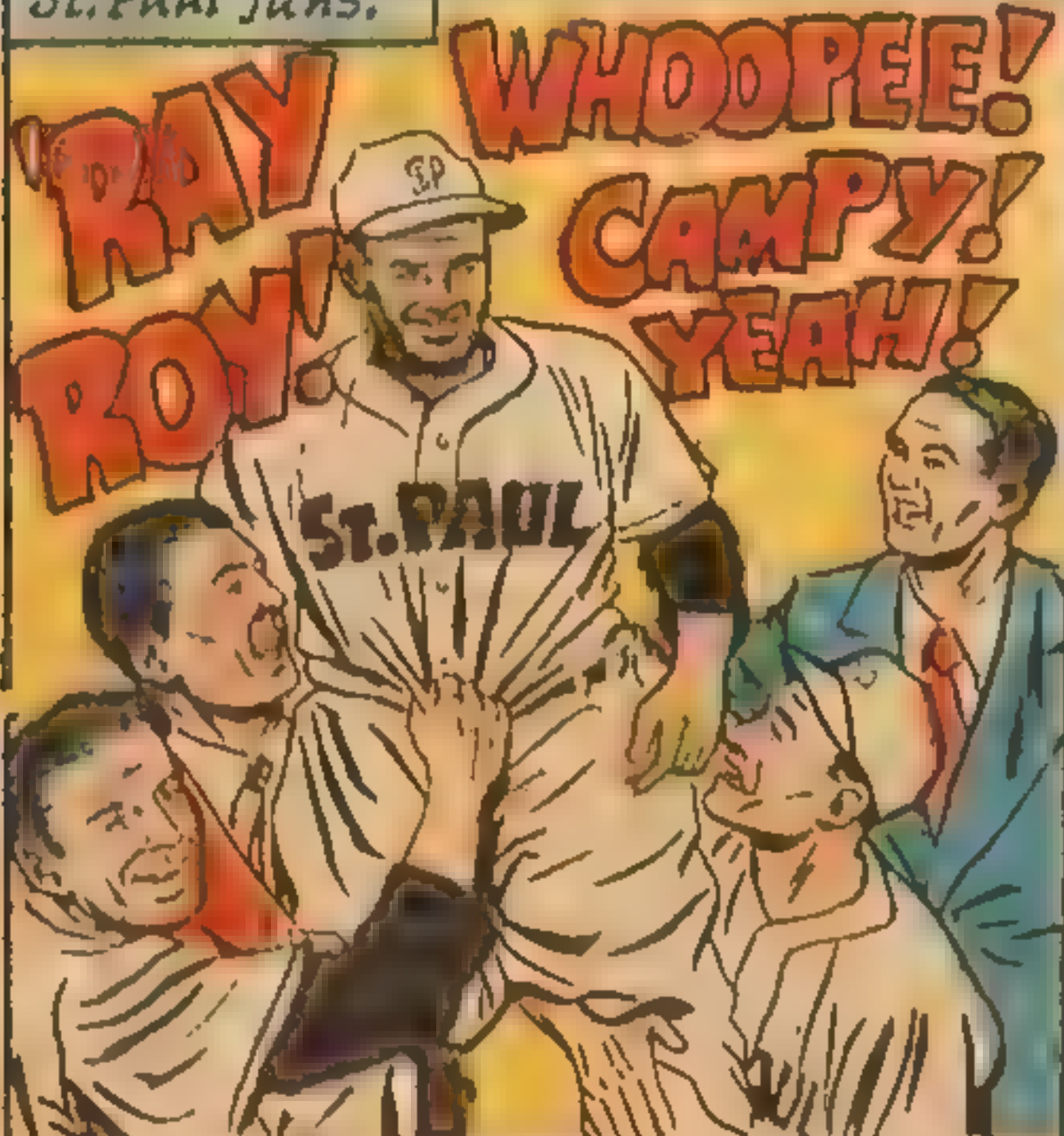
KEEP YER HAIR OUTTA YER EYES, CAMPY!



But Roy put on a sensational exhibition! He slammed thirteen homers in thirty-five games!

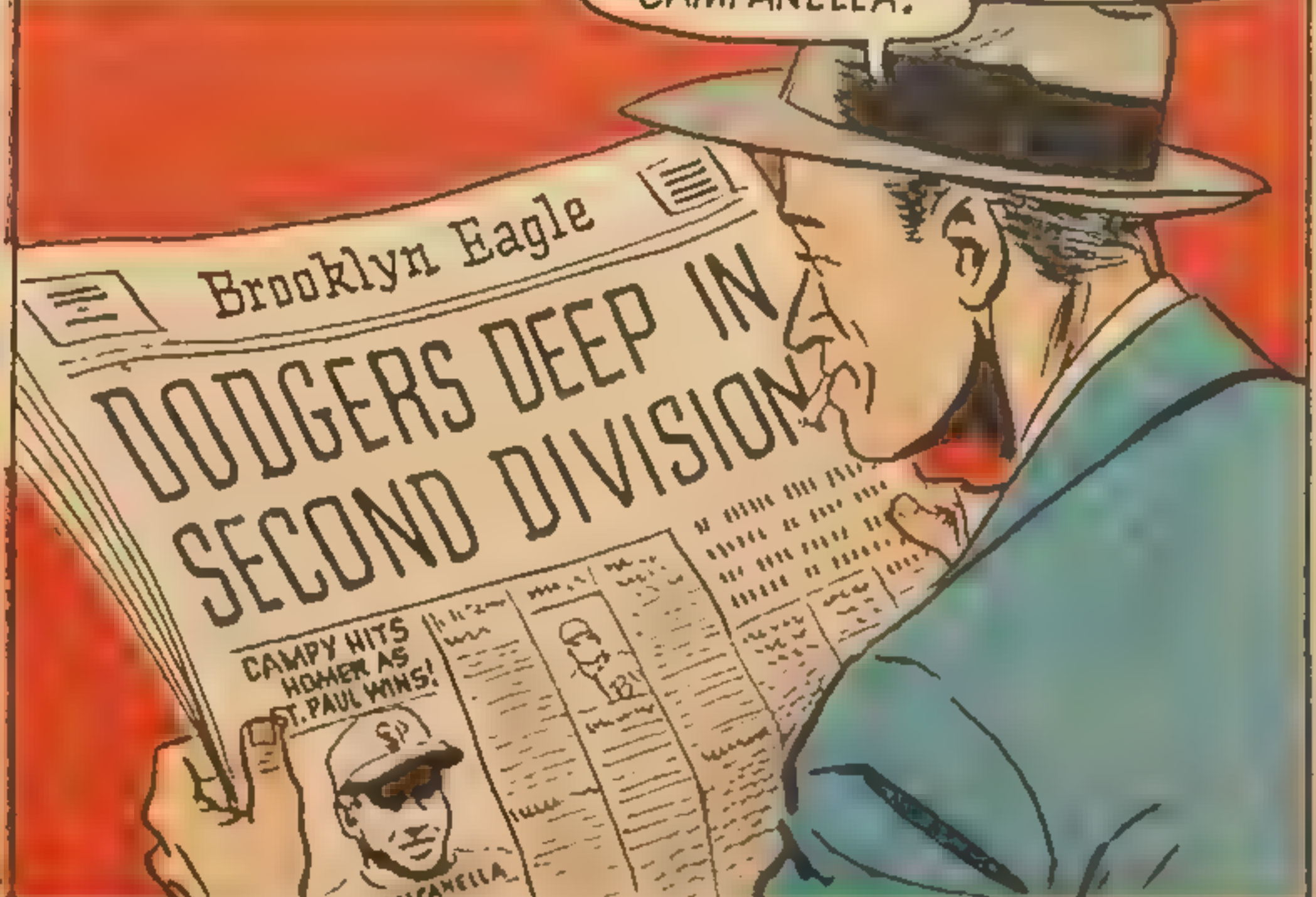


And Roy soon became the toast of the St. Paul fans!



And, back in Flatbush...

BOY! THE BUM'S SURE COULD USE CAMPANELLA!





# ROY CAMPANELLA. BASEBALL HERO

Branch Rickey responded to the pleas of Dodger fans!

THAT YOU, ALSTON? TELL CAMPANELLA TO GRAB A PLANE FOR NEW YORK TODAY!



Dashing from the airport to the Polo Grounds on July 2, Roy rushed into the Dodger lineup! With the Giants leading 2 to 0 in the fifth, Roy belted a homer with a mate on base to tie the score!



And with the Giants leading 3 to 2 in the ninth!..

I GOT IT!

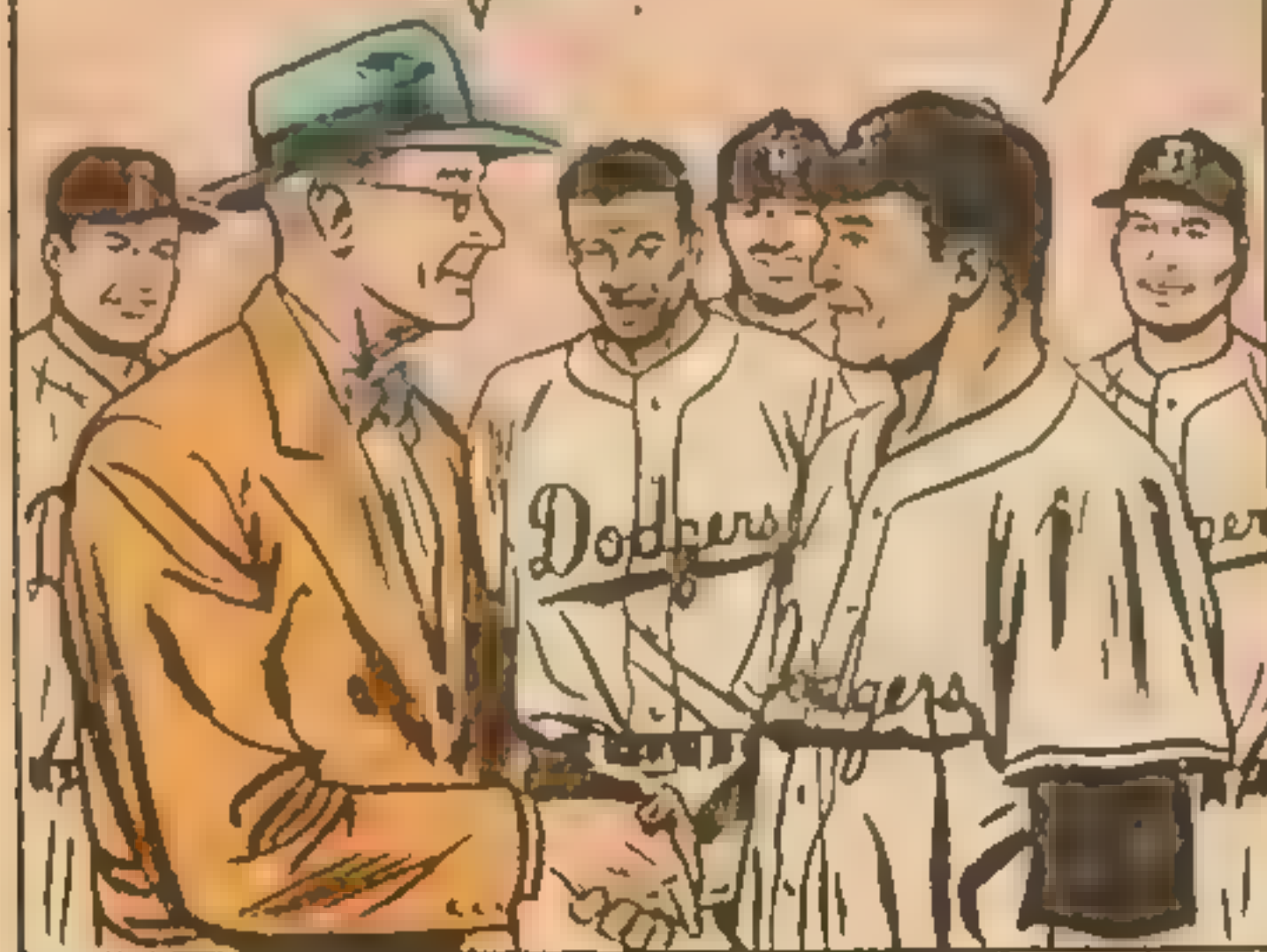
CAMPY DID IT AGAIN!



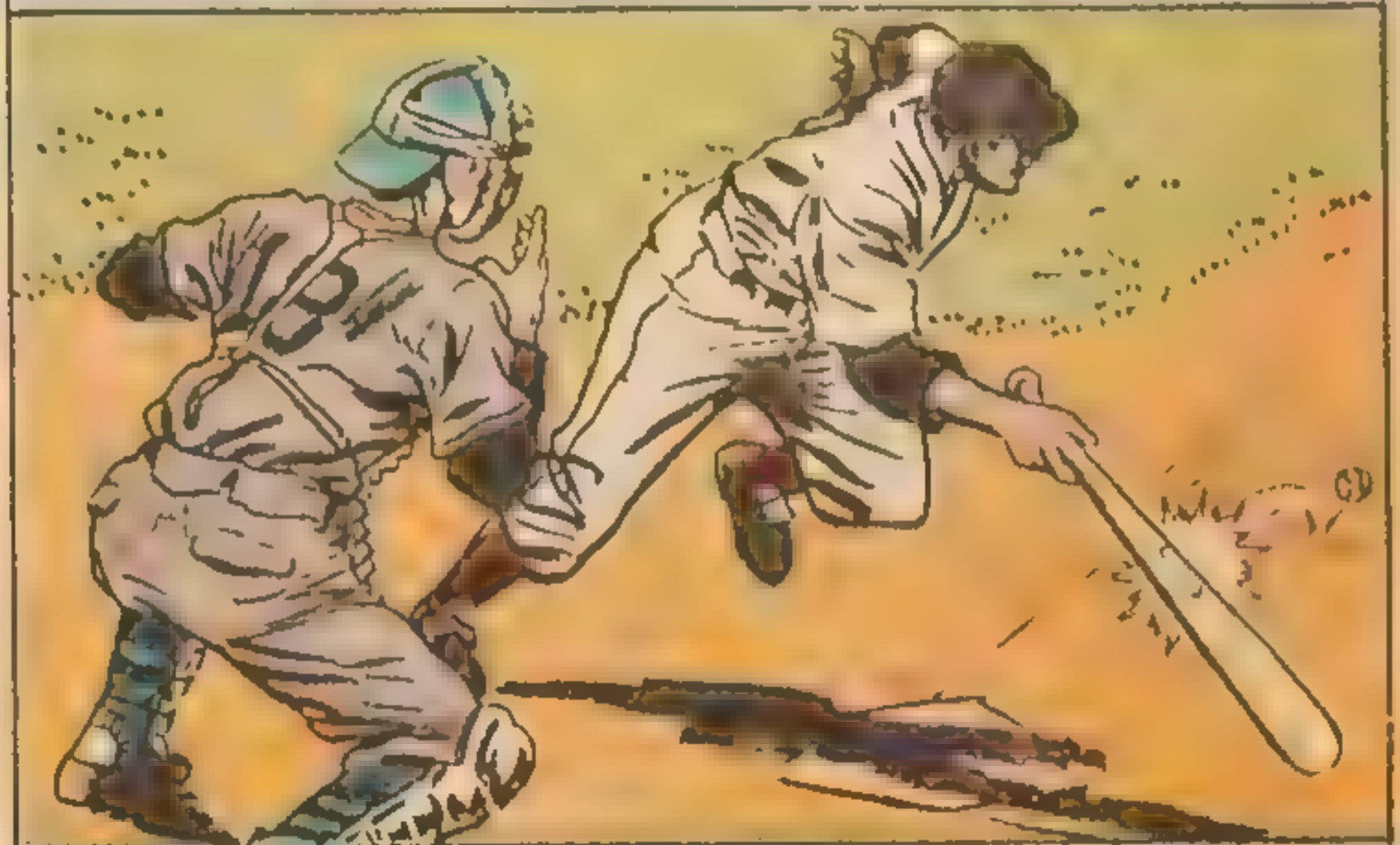
On July 18, the fifth place Dodgers had a new manager, genial Burt Shotton!

I LIKE YOUR .465 AVERAGE, ROY! YOU'RE MY NUMBER-ONE CATCHER!

THAT'S GREAT NEWS, MR. SHOTTON!



Iron Man Roy then caught a double-header against the World's champion Cardinals!



In the first game, Roy's bunt single drove in the winning Dodger run!

Repeating his iron man stunt in the next day's twin bill, Roy caught Rex Barney's cannon ball in the opener!

LET'S GO OVER THE CARD LINEUP, REX! WE'LL FEED MUSIAL LOW OUTSIDE CURVES --AND GIVE SLAUGHTER HIGH, FAST BALLS!

I SEE WHAT YOU MEAN, ROY!



With uncanny control, the usually wild Barney fanned Stan Musial!

THAT'S IT, REX!



The Dodgers surged to victory as big Rex, guided by Roy, blanked the Cards with one hit!



All was not always peaches and cream with Roy! Enemy base runners often hurtled into him, spikes high!



To avoid the spikes, Roy was forced to sidestep!

In a game against the Boston Braves, Roy took a low pitch...

**STRIKE!**



THAT WAS A ROTTEN DECISION, UMP!

THAT'S ENOUGH OUT OF YOU, CAMPANELLA! LEAVE THE FIELD!



The Dodgers hit first place on August 30, but injuries cost them the flag! As the season ended...

♪ WAIT TILL THE SUN SHINES, NELLIE... AND THE CLOUDS GO DRIFTING BY... ♪

WAIT TILL NEXT YEAR, BOYS!



### Roy's Record at St. Paul and Brooklyn... 1948:

Batting Average	.278
Total Hits	112
Doubles	16
Triples	5
Homers	22
Runs Batted In	84
Fielding	.973

Led NL catchers in double plays.

That winter, Roy played no ball for the first time in his career. Instead...

WHAT A LOVELY HOUSE!

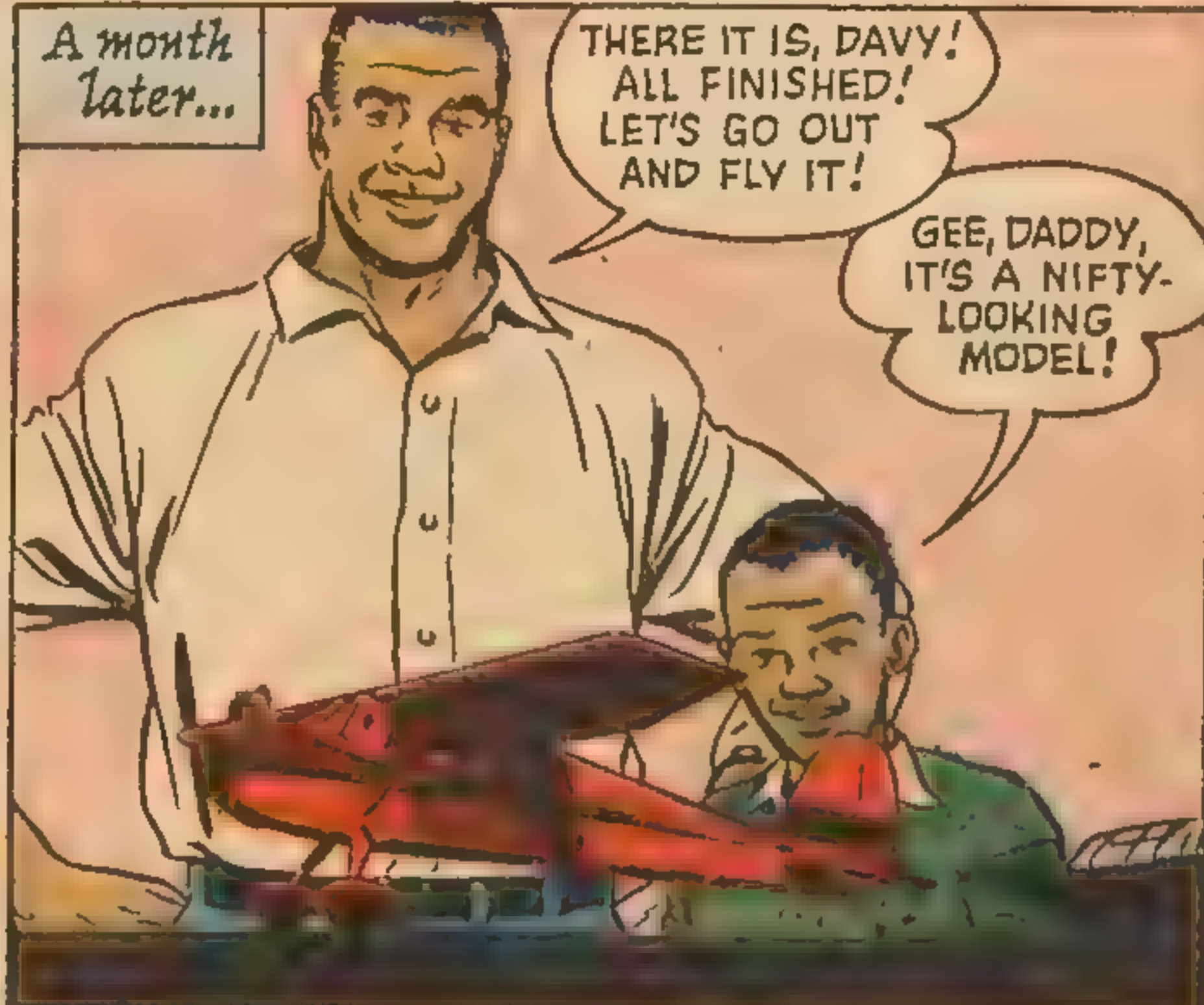
LET'S BUY IT, RUTH!



A month later...

THERE IT IS, DAVY! ALL FINISHED! LET'S GO OUT AND FLY IT!

GEE, DADDY, IT'S A NIFTY-LOOKING MODEL!





APRIL 20, 1949... The young Dodgers surged into the new season, eager to avenge their 1948 defeat!

**PLAY BALL!**

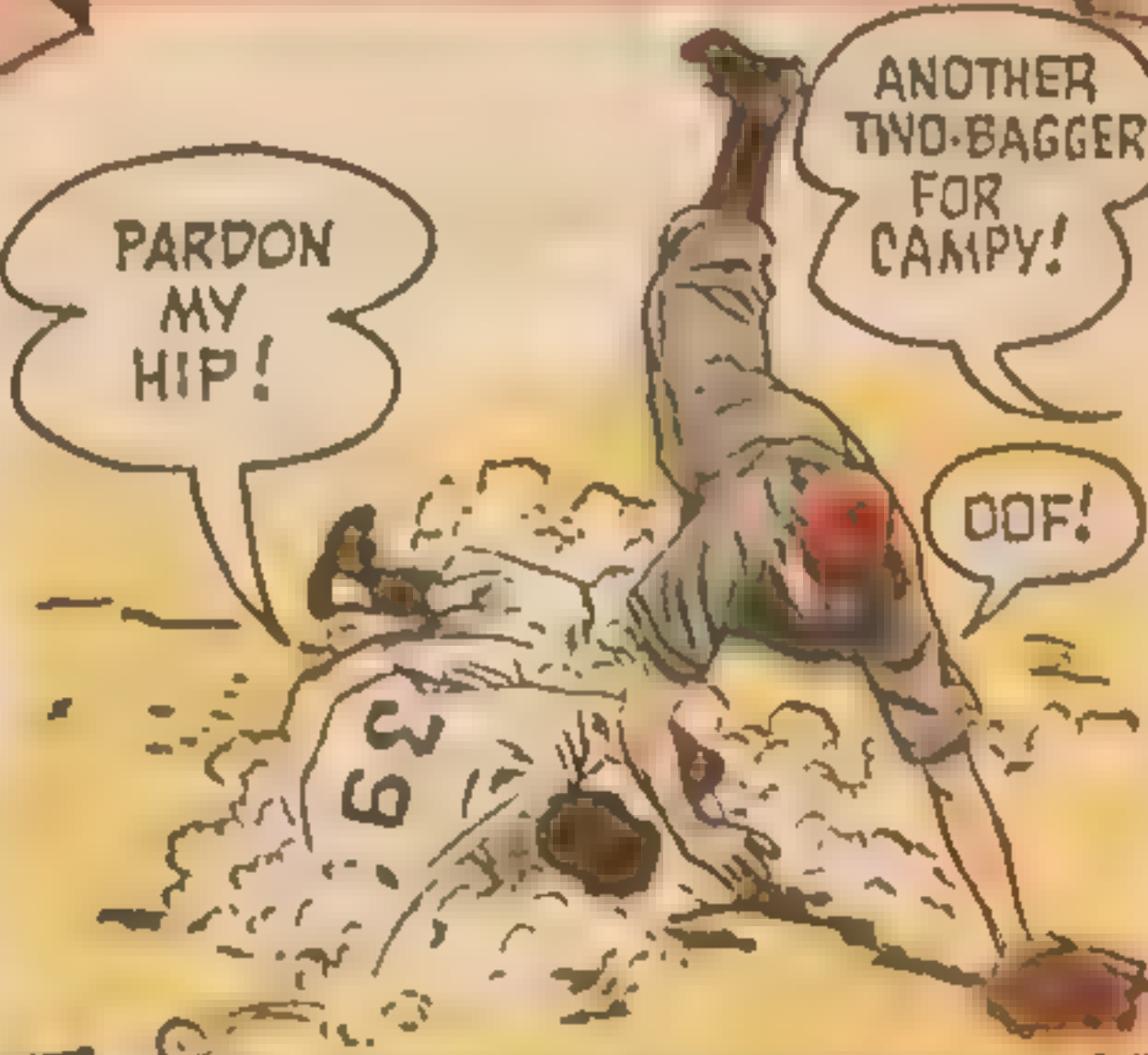


In mid-May, Roy, batting .438, led the Dodgers!

PARDON MY HIP!

ANOTHER TWO-BAGGER FOR CAMPY!

DOOF!



But pitching weakness kept the Dodgers in the Second Division!

On May 20, Don Newcombe was recalled from Montreal to face the Cincinnati Reds!

WE'RE TOGETHER, LIKE AT NASHUA, ROY!

AND YOU CAN BEAT THOSE BIG LEAGUERS, TOO, DON!

WHAT A BATTERY!

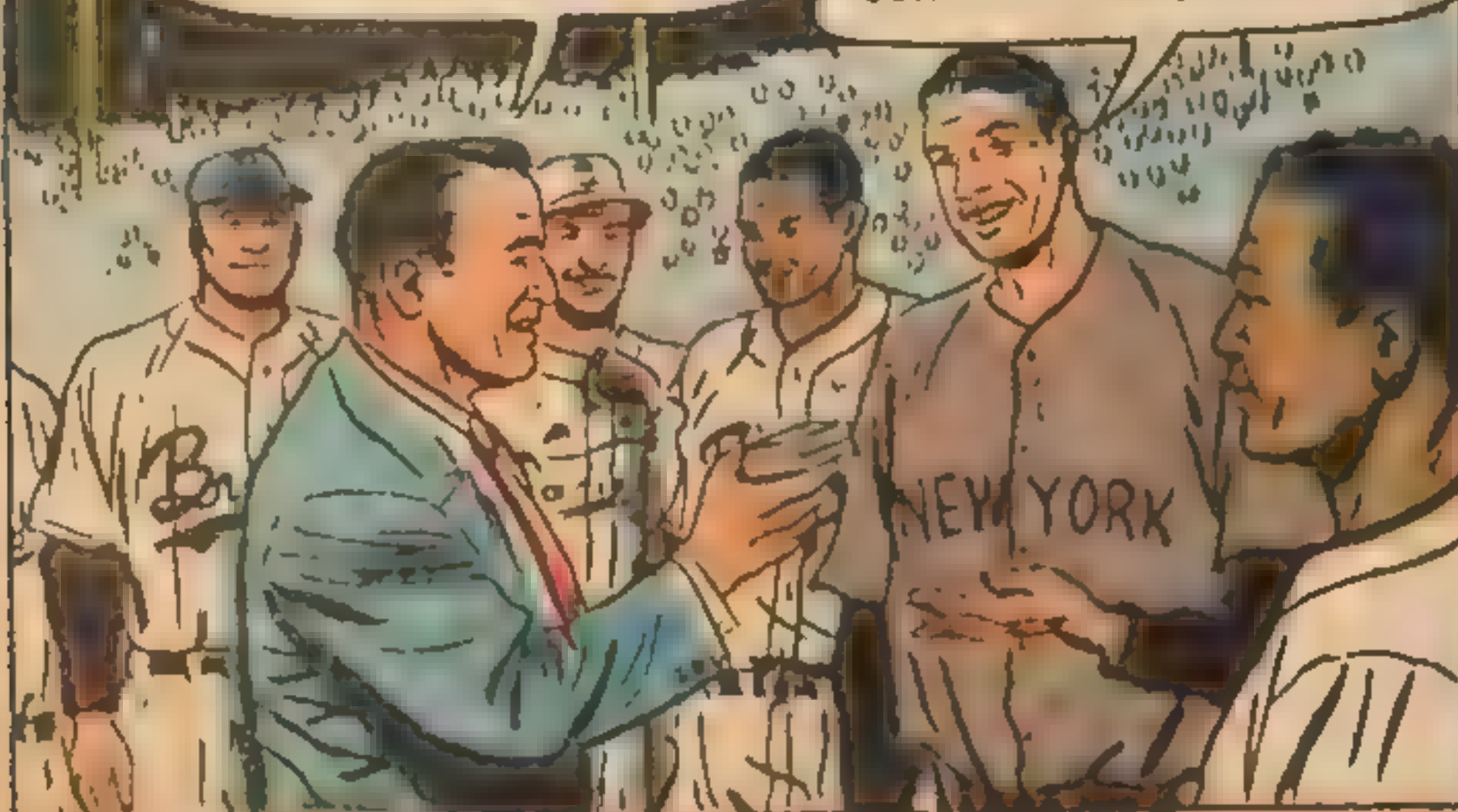


Swiftly the Dodgers rose to the top! Jackie's blazing hits, Don's scorching fast ball, Pee Wee's sizzling fielding, Roy's fiery receiving, burned up the league!

At Ebbets Field on July 12... DIMAGGIO, ROBINSON, MUSIAL,

CAMPANELLA, THESE WATCHES ARE SOUVENIRS OF THIS GREAT ALL-STAR GAME! HERE'S YOURS, JOE!

THANK YOU, COMMISSIONER CHANDLER!



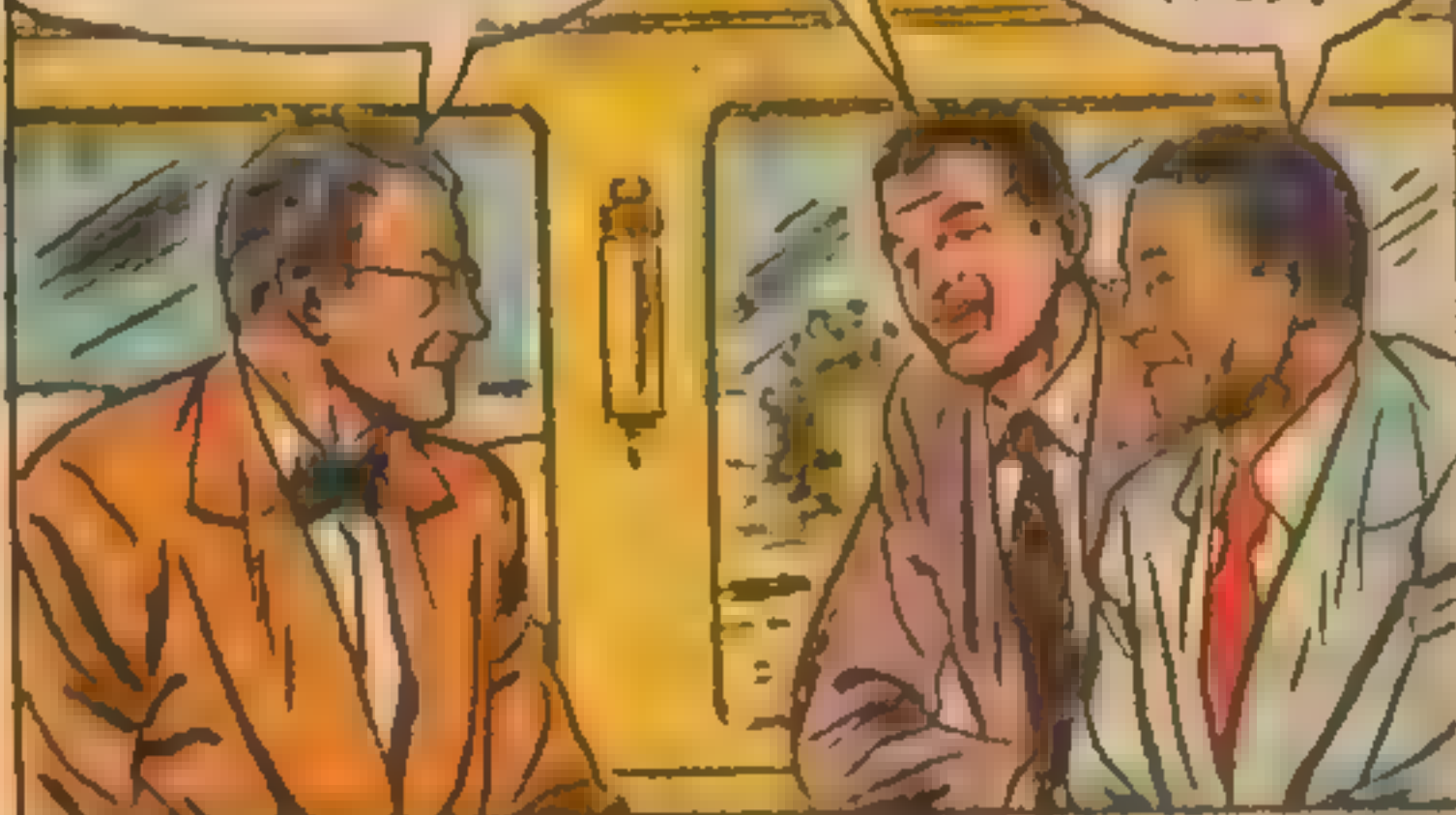
Once again an All-Star, Roy caught six innings, the Americans winning, 10 to 6!

Throughout August the Dodgers topped the league, but in September they faltered before the onrush...

WE'RE IN THE HOME STRETCH AND EVERY GAME COUNTS! TOMORROW WE FACE THE PIRATES, AND RALPH KINER!

THE PIRATES WILL PITCH BILL WERLE, MR. SHOTTON!

WERLE HAS A WICKED FAST BALL-- AND SOMETIMES HE'S AWFULLY WILD!

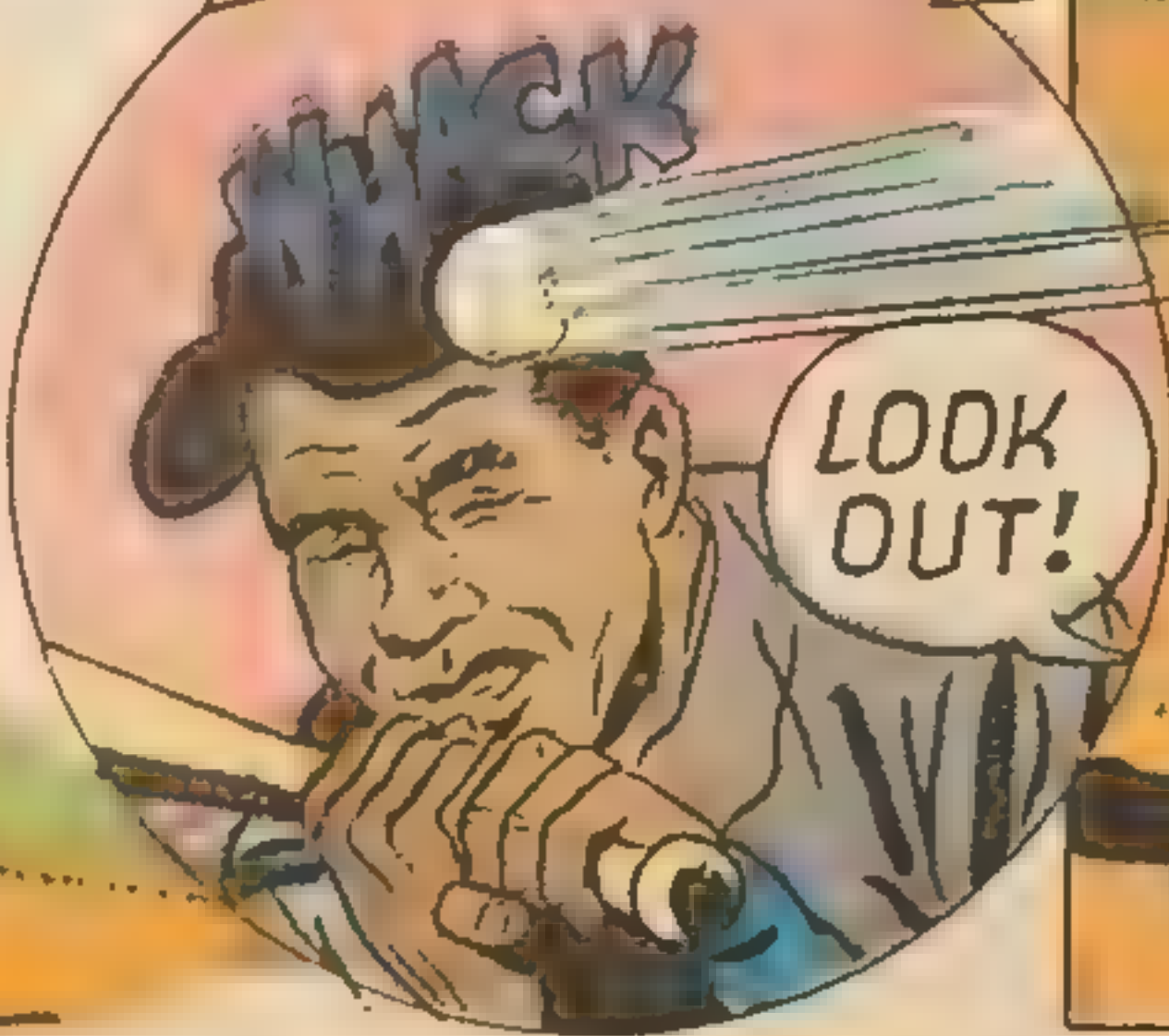




And Werle WAS wild!  
In the third inning,  
with Roy at bat, Werle  
wound up and--



--uncorked a  
fast one!



LOOK  
OUT!

BRING THE  
STRETCHER!



I COULDN'T  
HELP IT,  
FELLOWS!

WE  
KNOW  
THAT,  
BILL!

EASY  
WITH  
HIM!

IF WE LOSE  
CAMPY, WE  
LOSE THE  
FLAG!

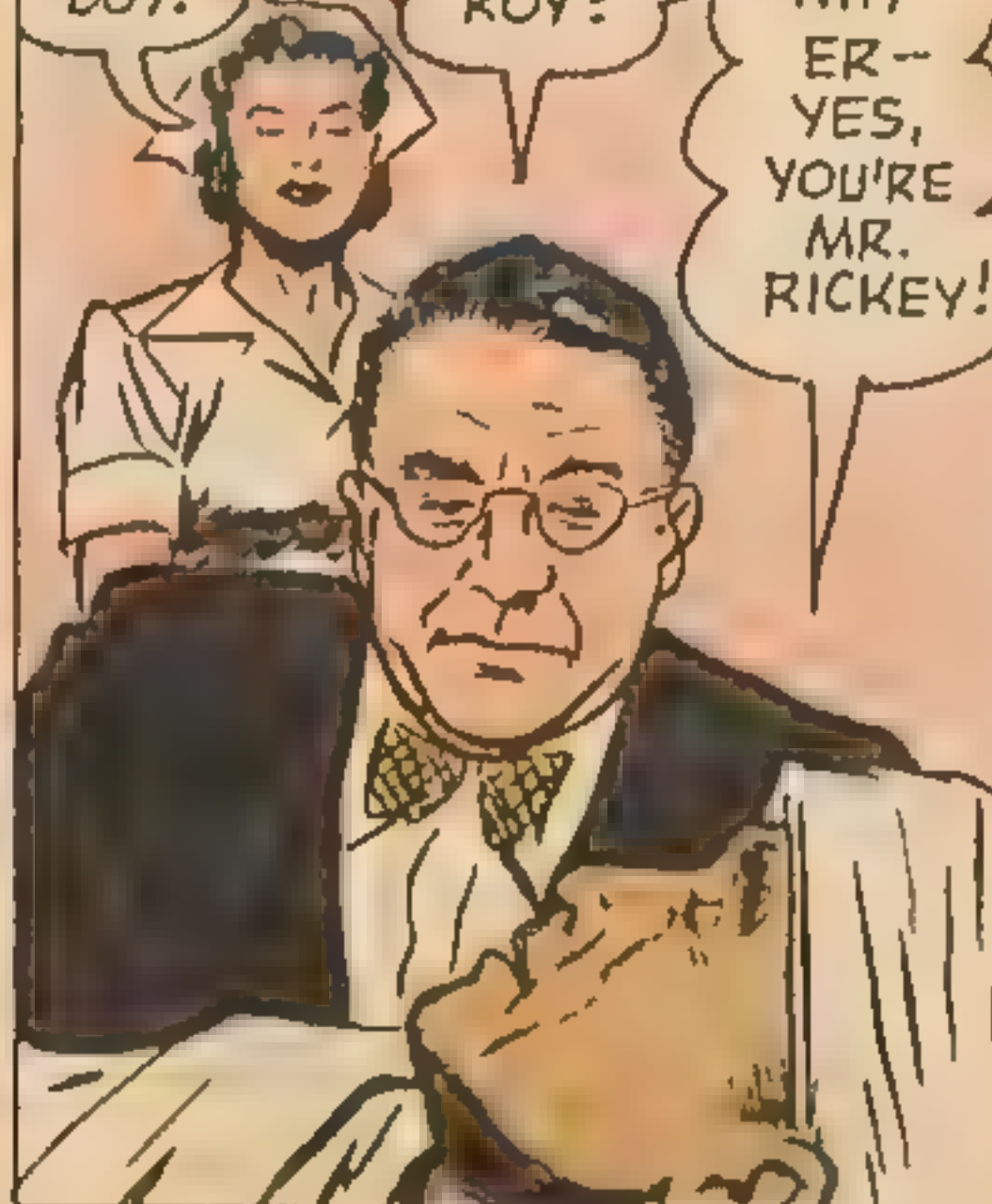


An hour later

HE'S A  
SICK  
BOY!

DO YOU KNOW  
WHO I AM,  
ROY?

WHY--  
ER--  
YES,  
YOU'RE  
MR.  
RICKEY!



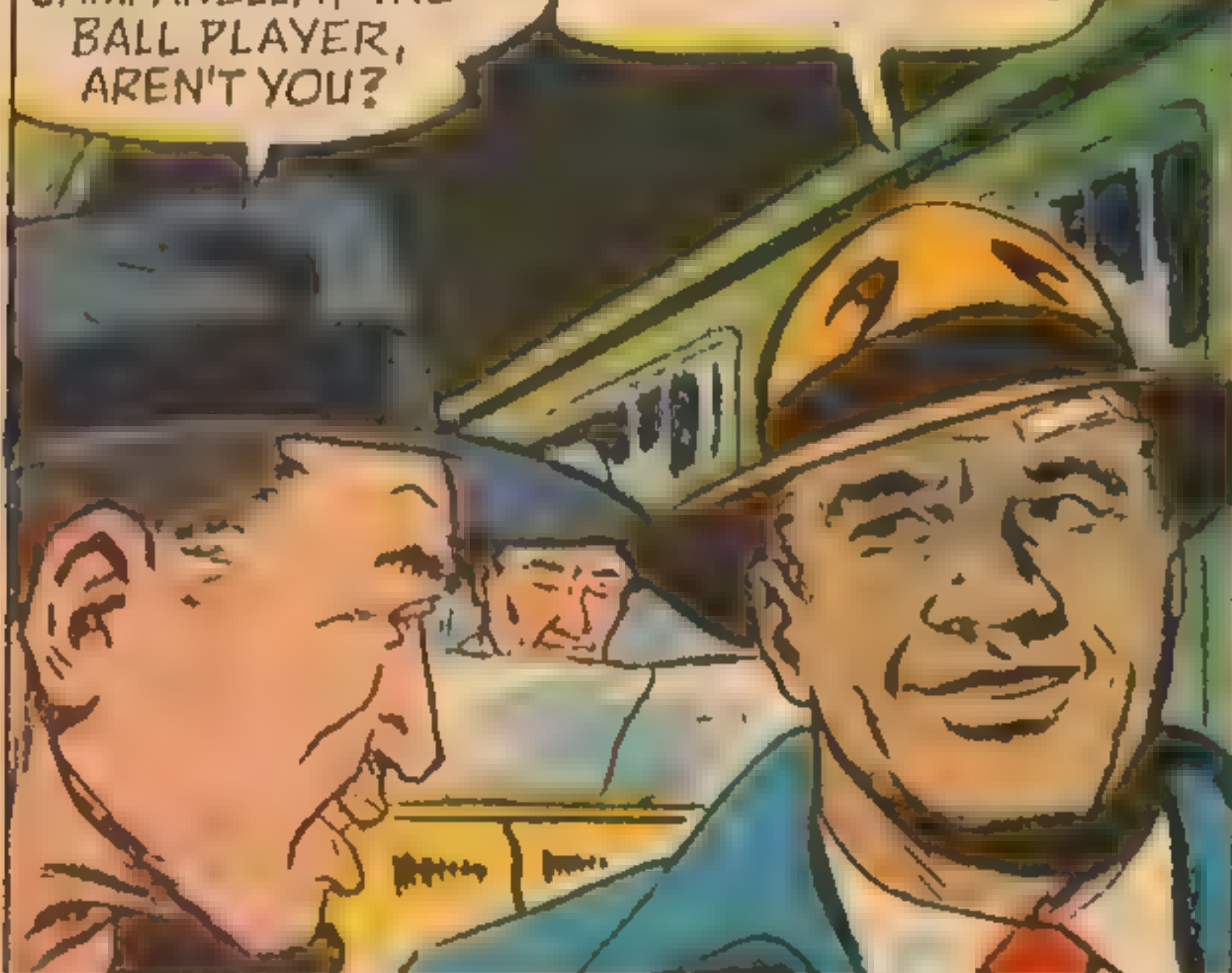
The Dodgers departed for  
Chicago, leaving Roy in the  
Pittsburgh hospital! But on  
the following midnight, Roy  
slipped out of the hospital!



On a train to Chicago...

SAY, YOU'RE ROY  
CAMPANELLA, THE  
BALL PLAYER,  
AREN'T YOU?

YOU GOT ME WRONG,  
STRANGER! MY NAME  
IS JOE DOAKES!

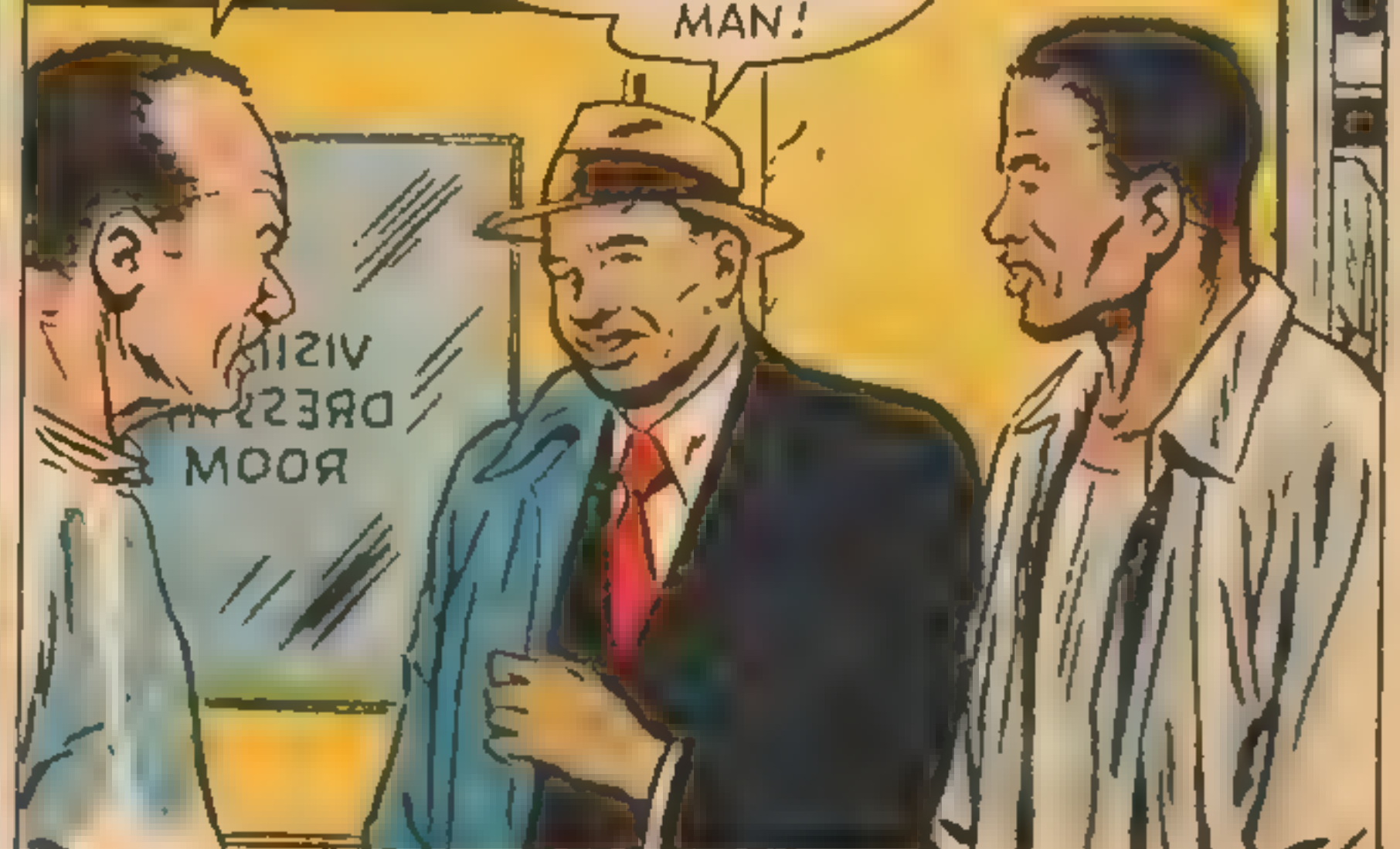


At Wrigley Field, Chicago, the next noon...

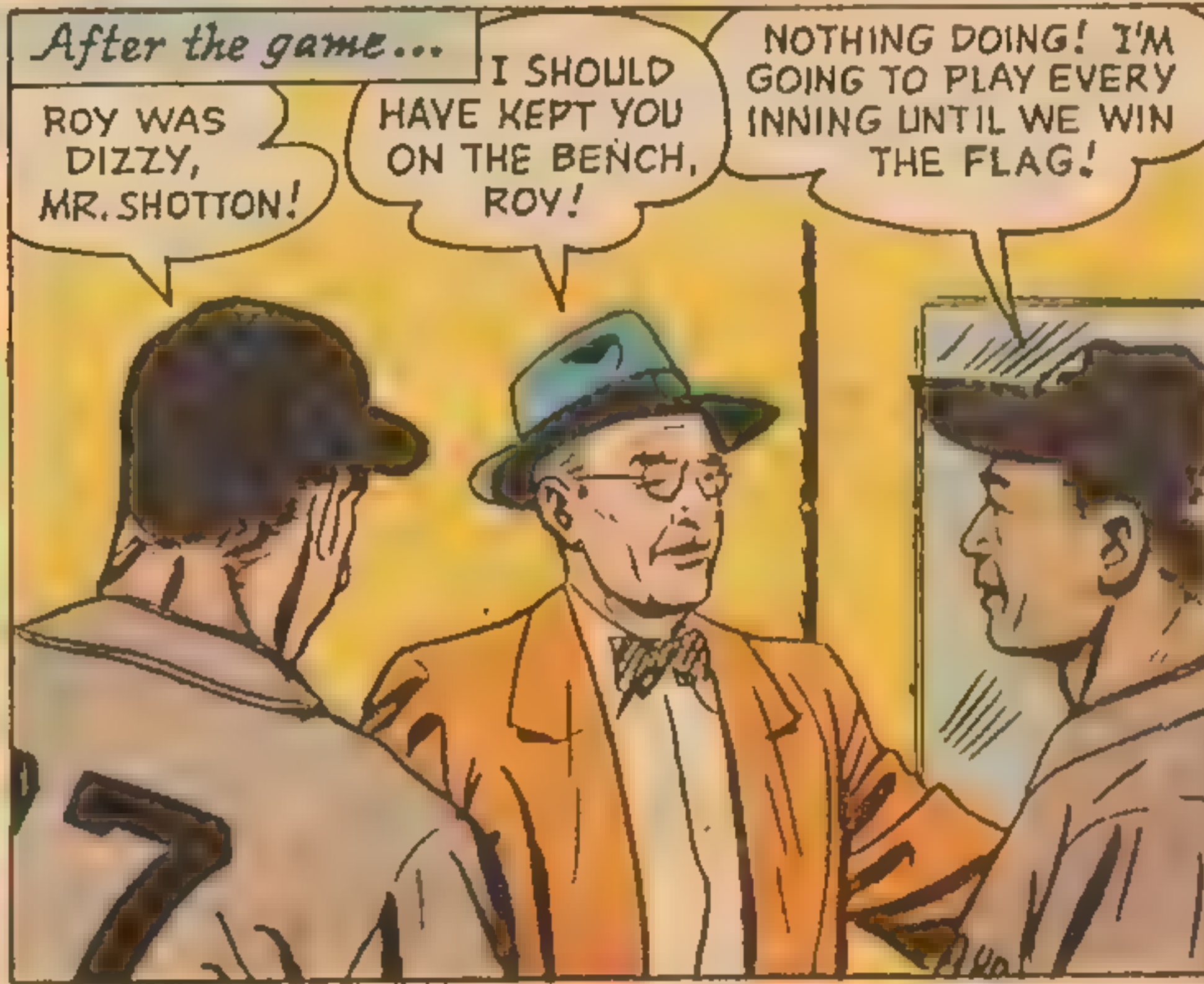
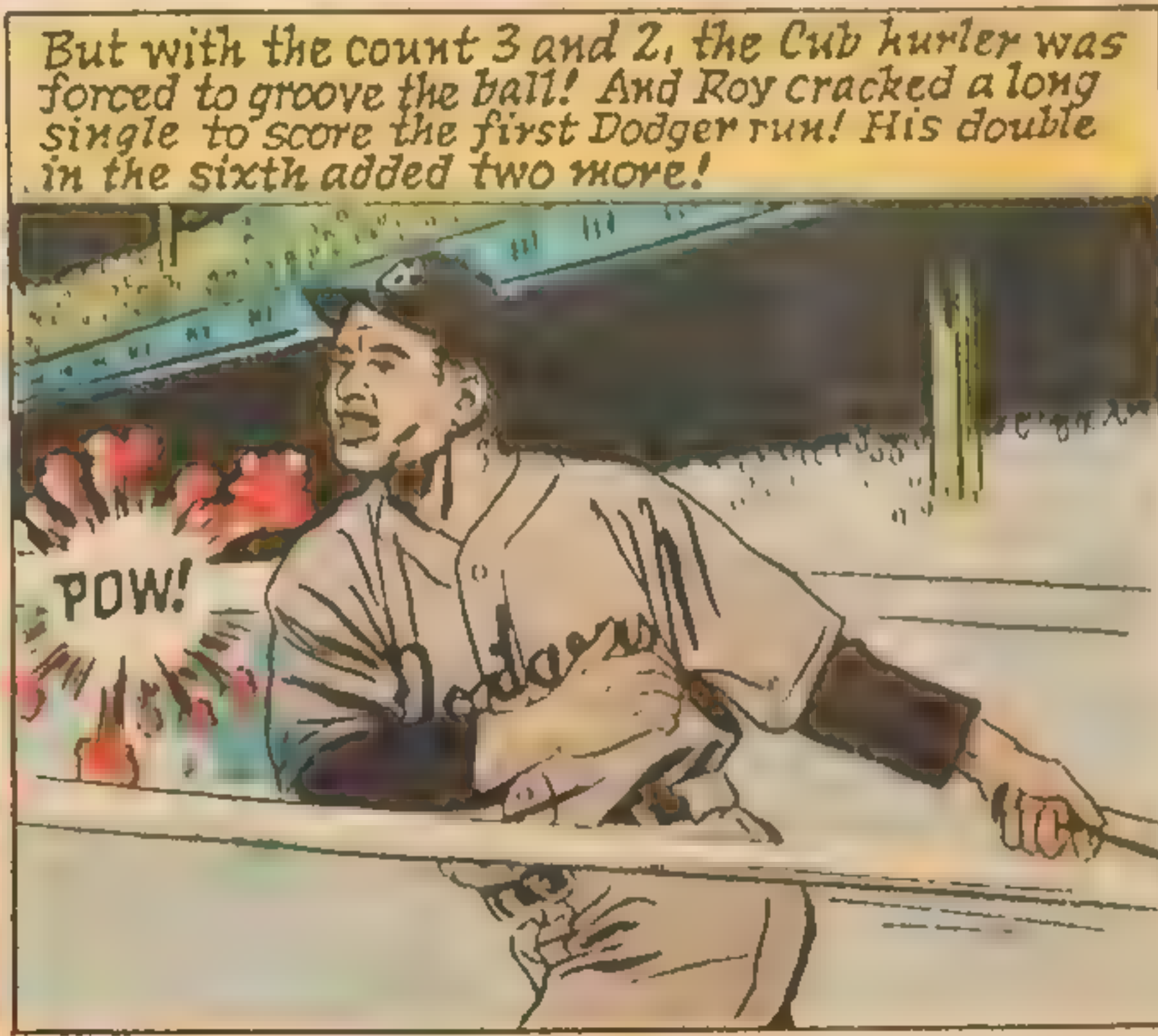
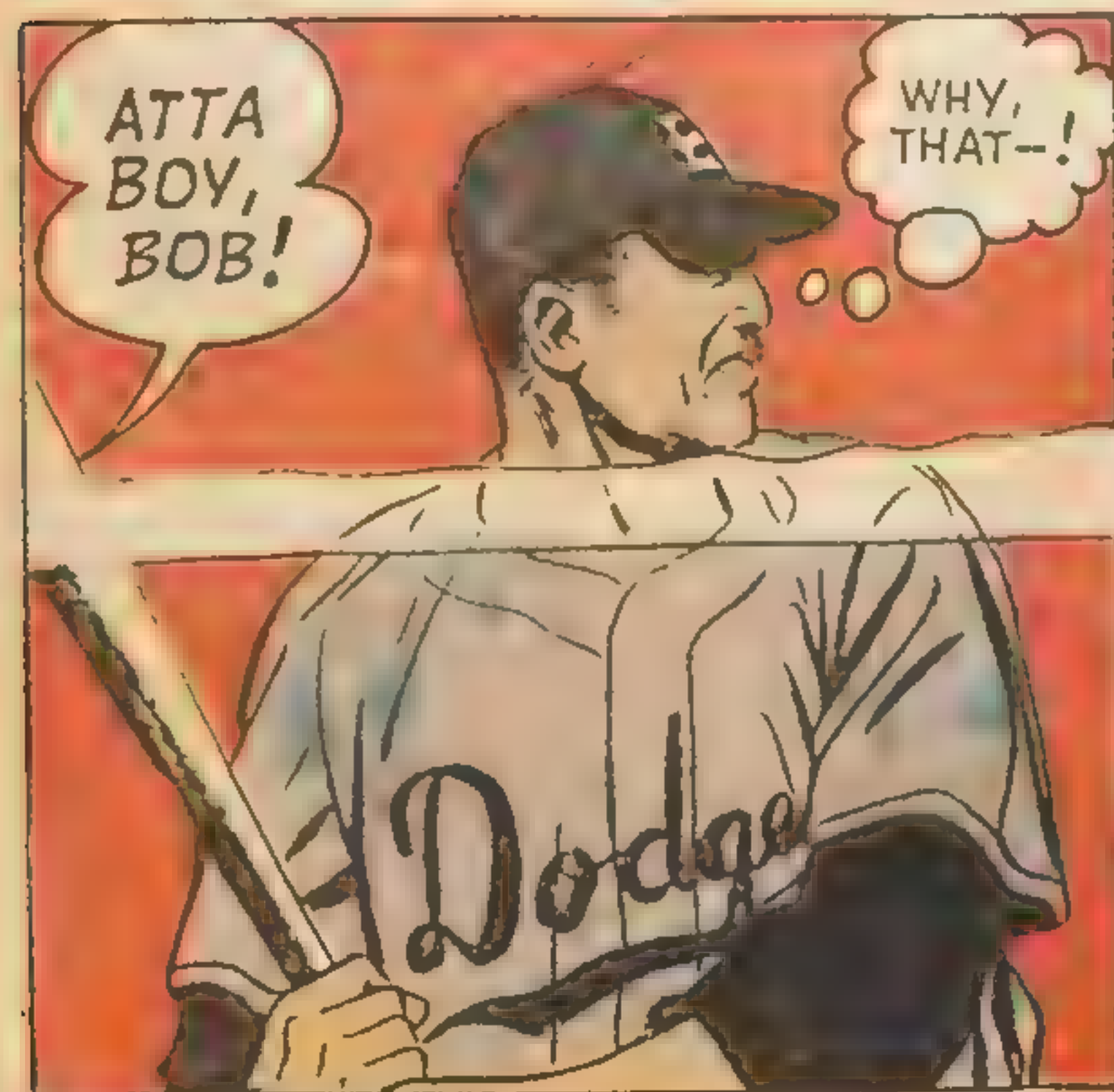
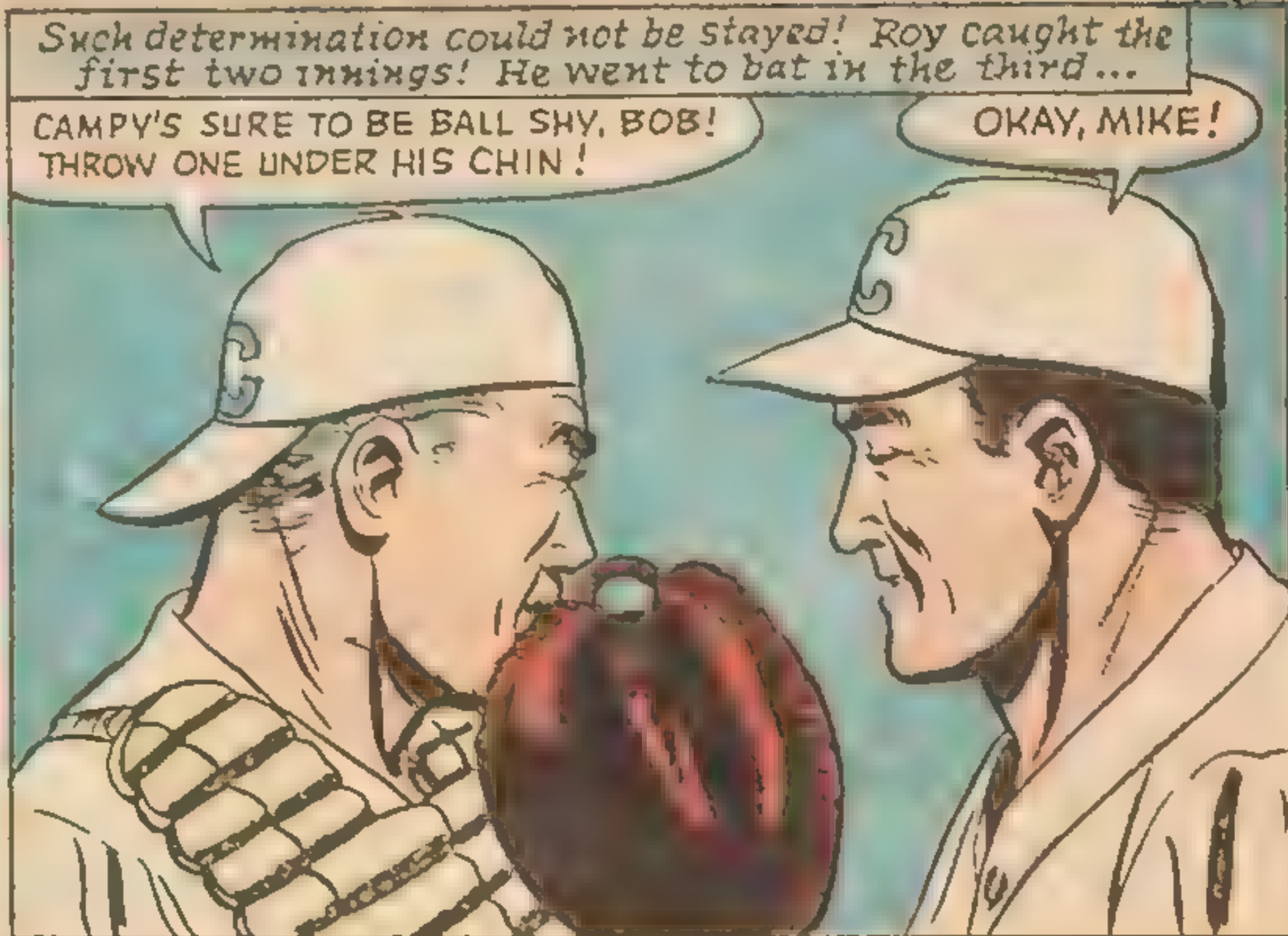
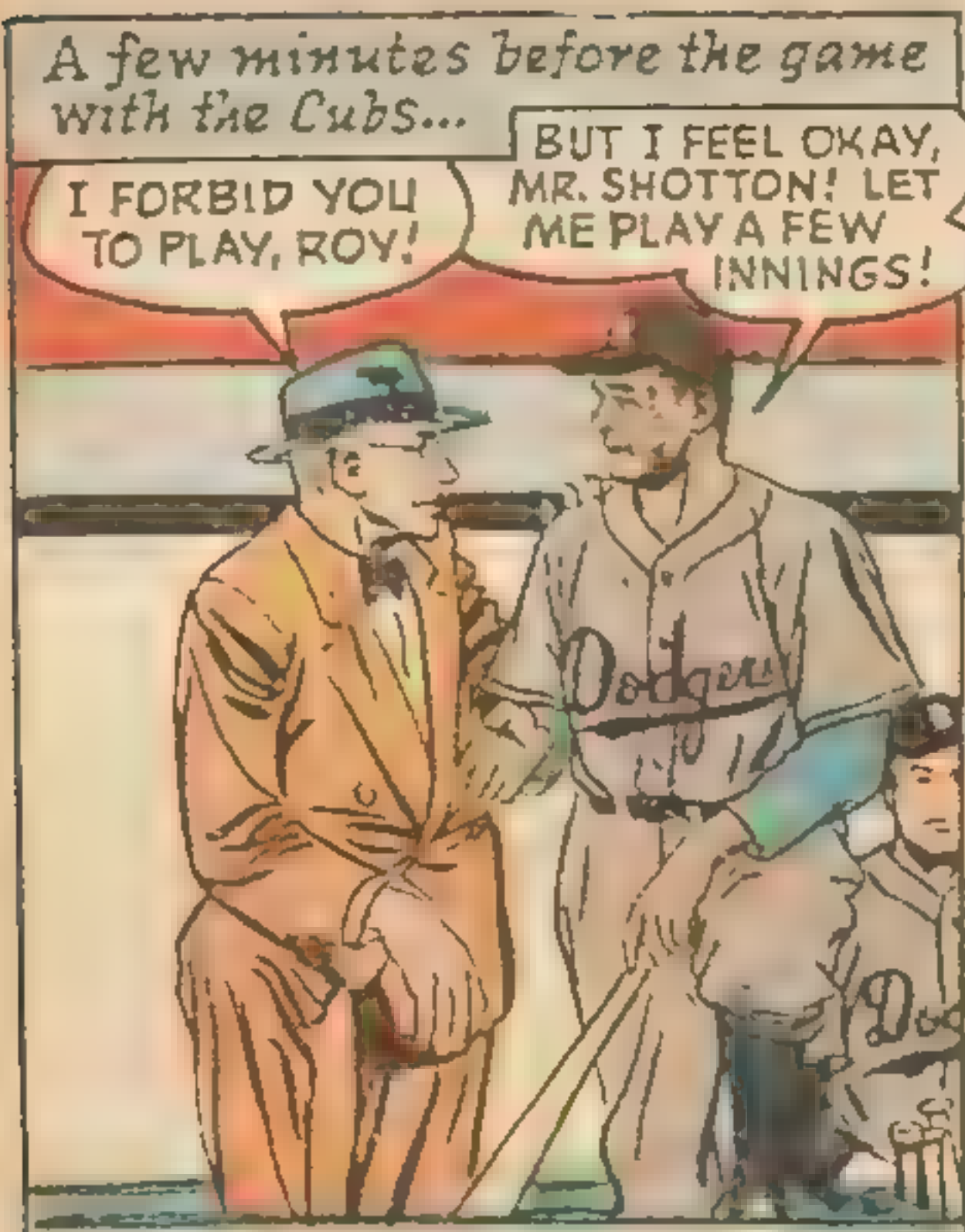
WHAT ARE YOU  
DOING HERE, ROY!  
YOU'VE GOT A  
CONCUSSION!

DOC, I CAN'T  
STAY IN BED  
FOURTEEN DAYS  
WHEN THE CLUB  
NEEDS EVERY  
MAN!

YOU'RE TAKING  
AN AWFUL  
CHANCE!









**A**nd Roy did play every inning of every game, including a twin bill against the powerful Cardinals, who were leading the league by one and a half games!

His handling of Dodger twirlers was so keen that Card sluggers could score but one run in eighteen innings,

although the Dodgers could only gain an even split!

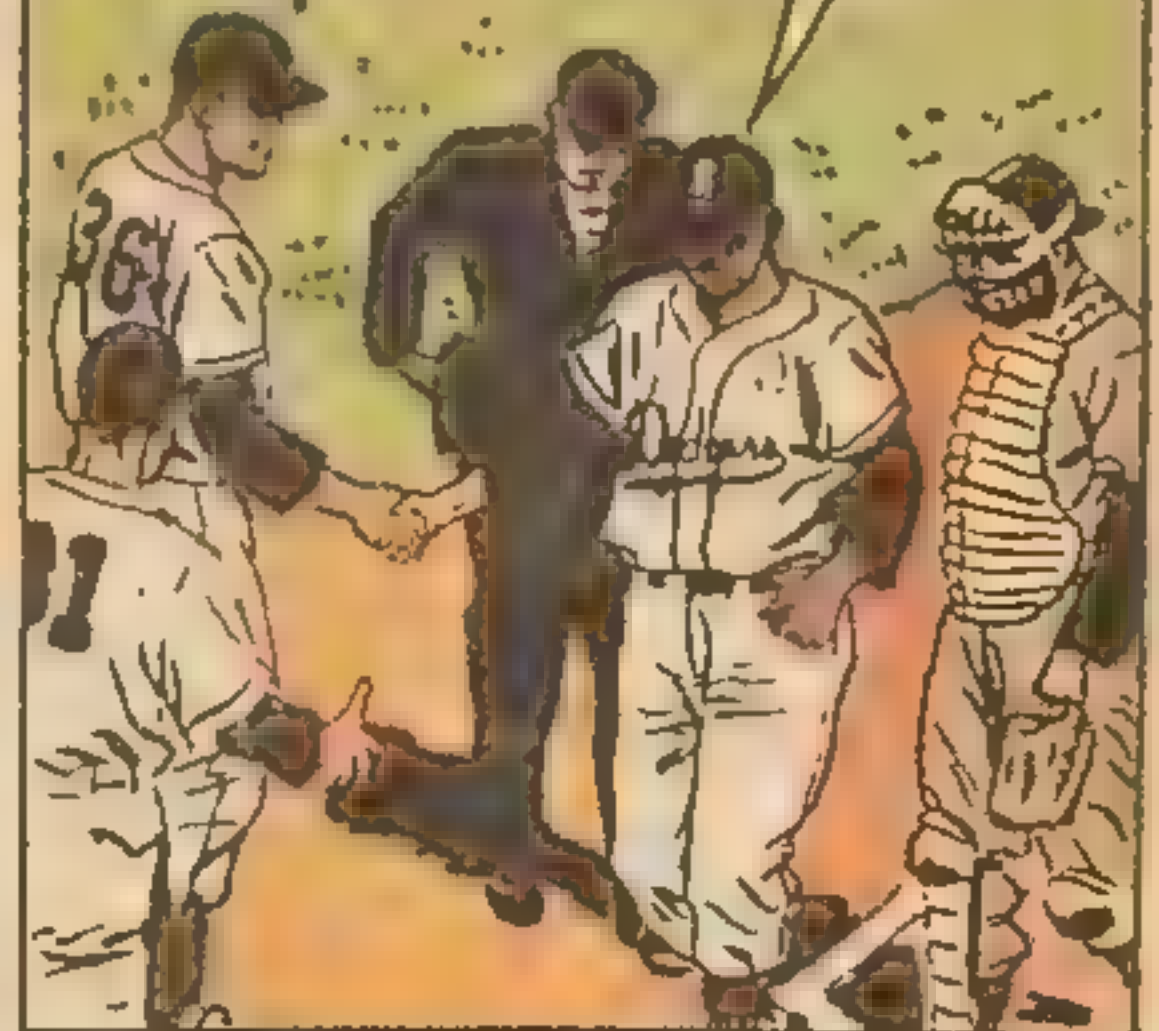


The next day, Roy's twenty-first homer climaxed a crushing 19 to 6 Card defeat, putting the Dodgers only one half game behind their rivals!

And Roy's twenty-second circuit clout on Sept. 24 against Philadelphia was smashed as Don Newcombe triumphed, 8 to 1!

CONGRATS, ROY!

THANKS, DON!



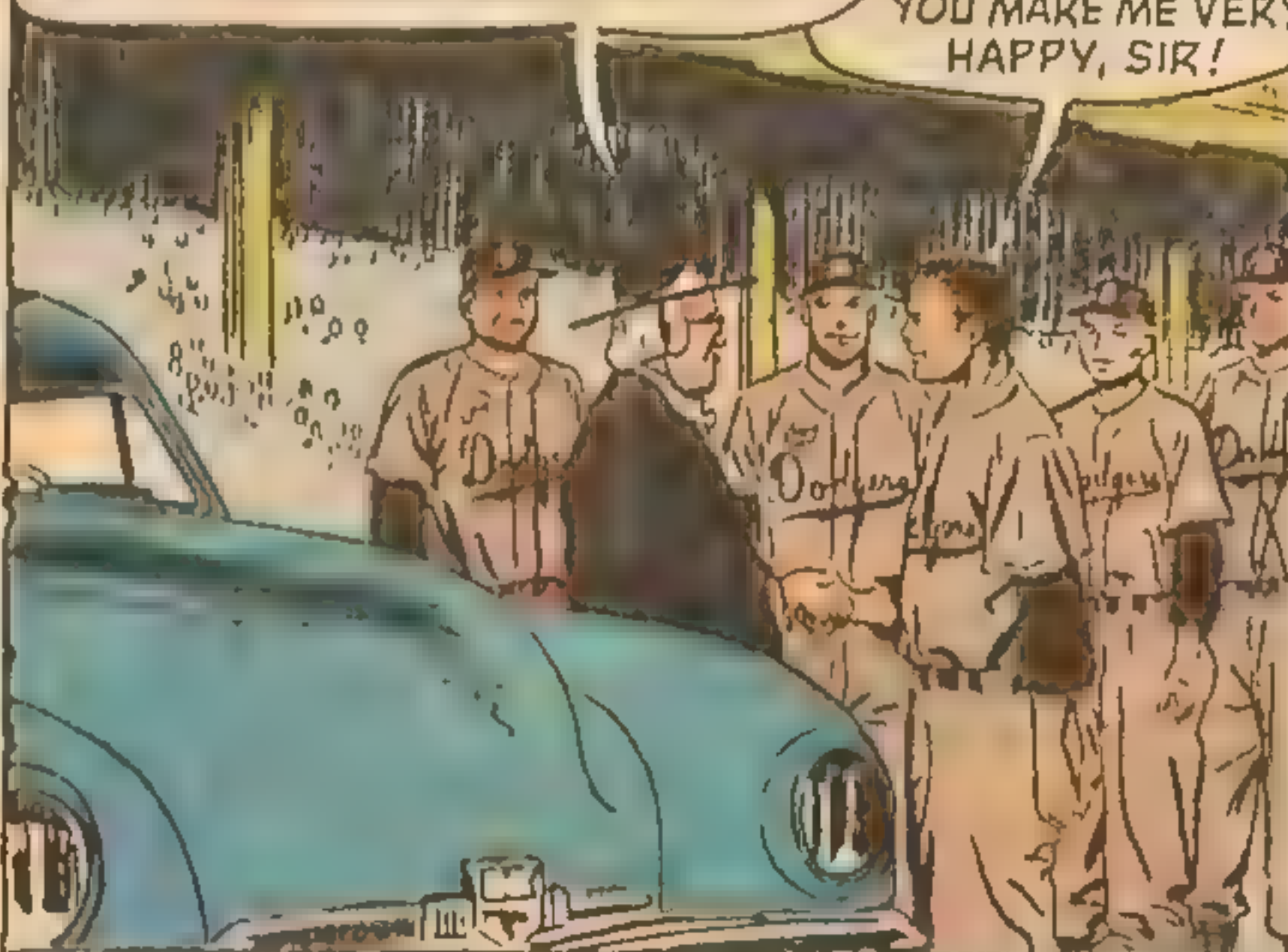
On Sept. 29, the Dodgers twice crushed the Braves, taking a one game lead!

With the season rapidly waning, the Dodgers stormed into Philadelphia, Roy's old home town, on Oct 1!

Roy was honored before the game!

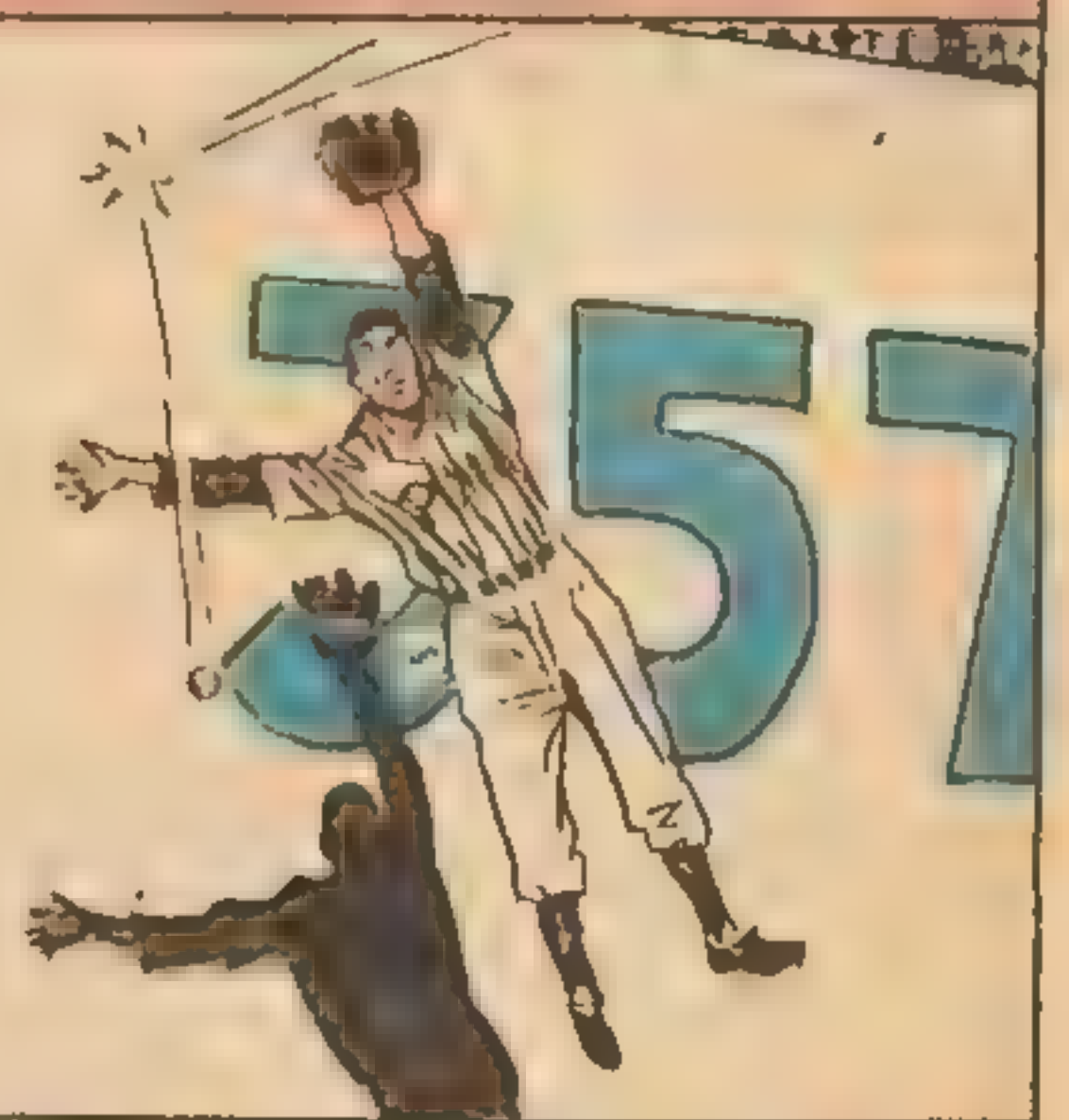
WE PHILADELPHIANS BELIEVE IN TOLERANCE AND OPPORTUNITY FOR ALL, ROY! THIS CAR IS OUR GIFT TO YOU, OUR BASEBALL HERO!

YOU MAKE ME VERY HAPPY, SIR!



But the Phils beat the Dodgers, 6 to 4!

On the season's final day, the Dodgers needed one victory to clinch the flag! In the fifth, leading 5 to 4, and with two on, Roy socked a wicked double to put the Dodgers three runs ahead!



But the Phils tied the score, 7 to 7, and Jack Banta and Ken Heintzelman matched pitch for pitch until the tenth! Then Pee Wee Reese singled and took second on a sacrifice!

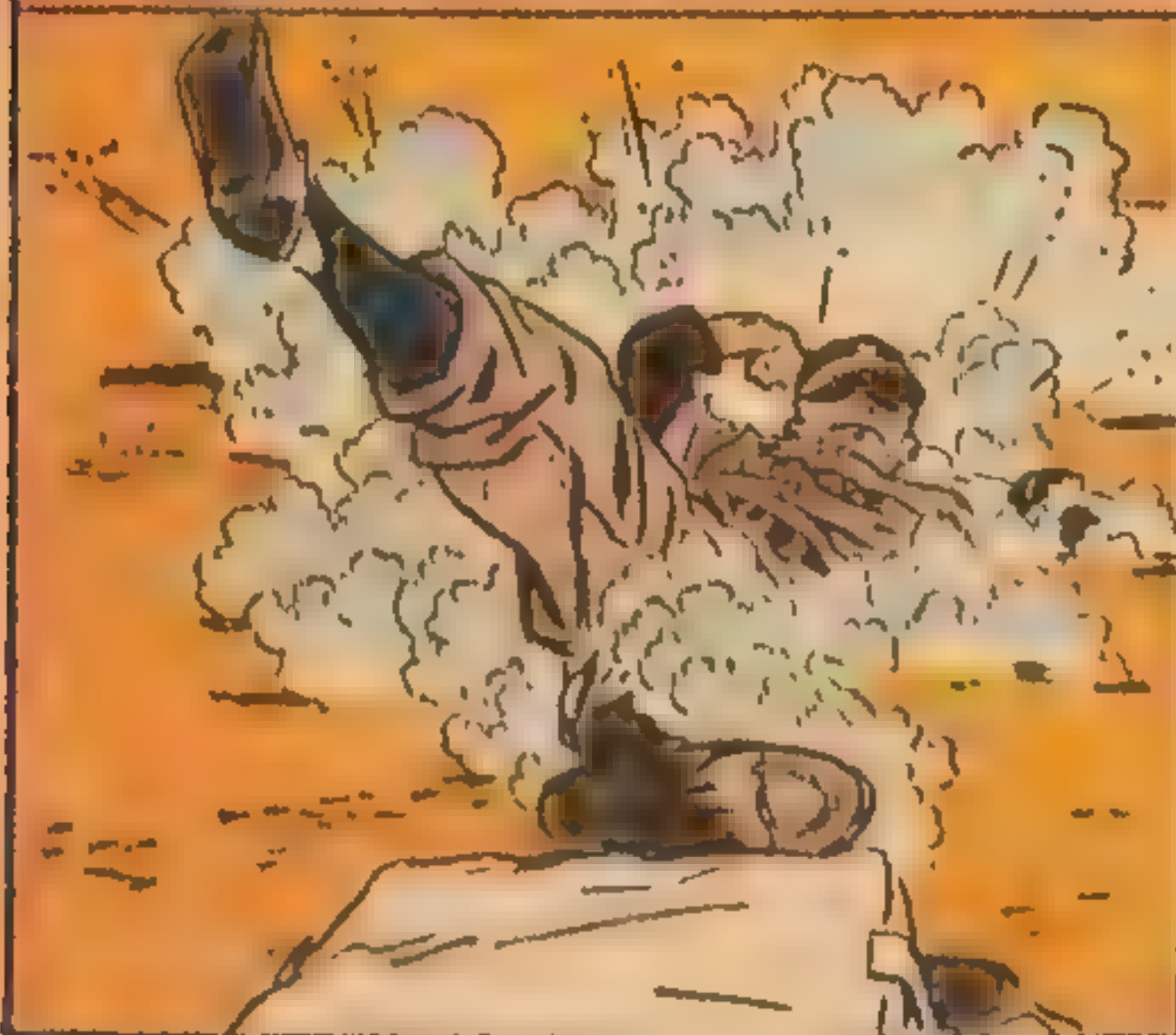
Duke Snider then boomed a single which scored Pee Wee with the flag-winning run!

WE WIN!

SAFE!



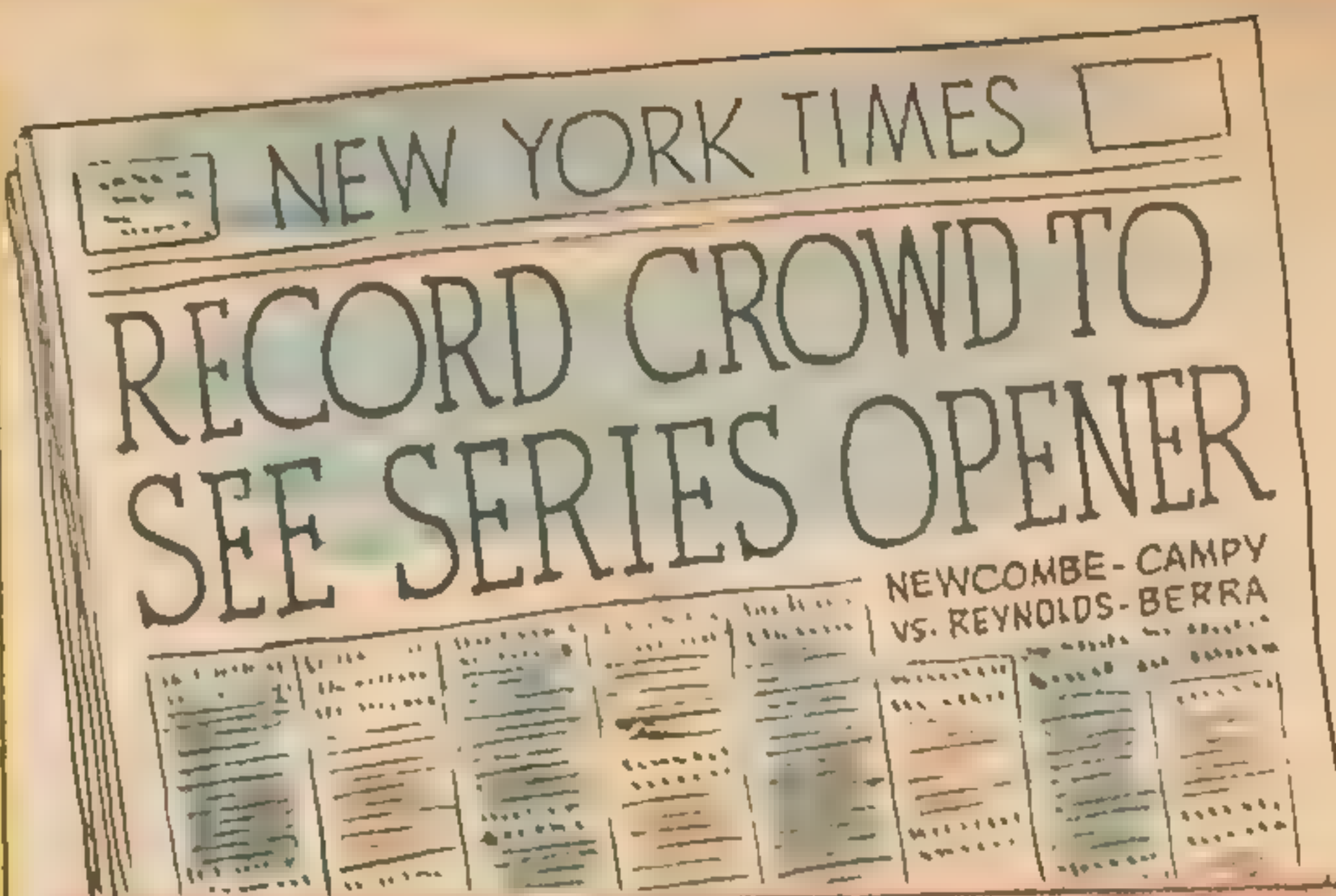
WE'RE IN THE SERIES!





# Roy 1949 Record with the Dodgers:

Batting Average	.290
Hits	125
Doubles	22
Triples	2
Homers	22
Total Bases	217
Runs Batted	82

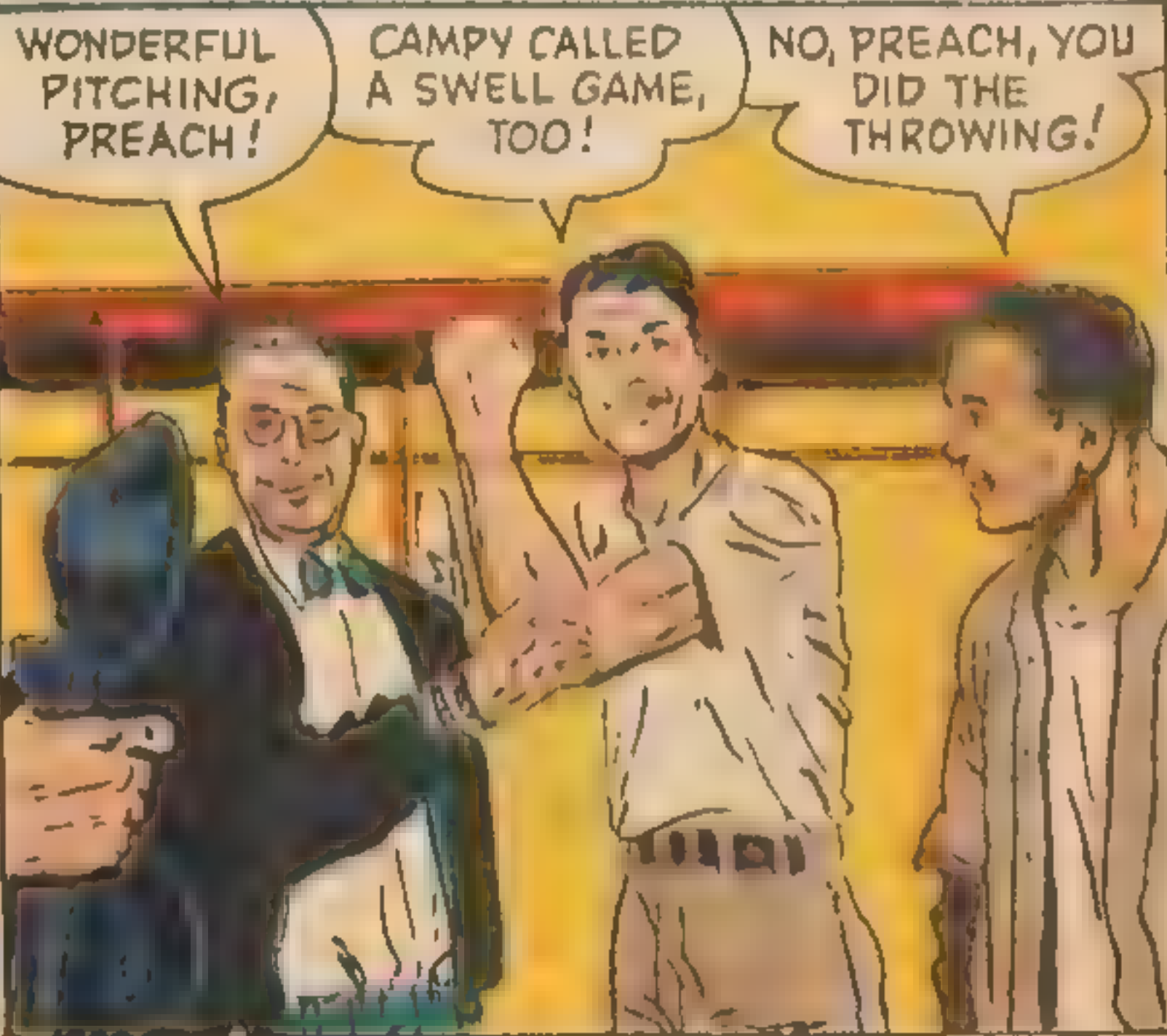


*It was Newcombe and Campanella against the rampaging Yanks before 66,224 Stadium fans in the opening game of the World Series!*

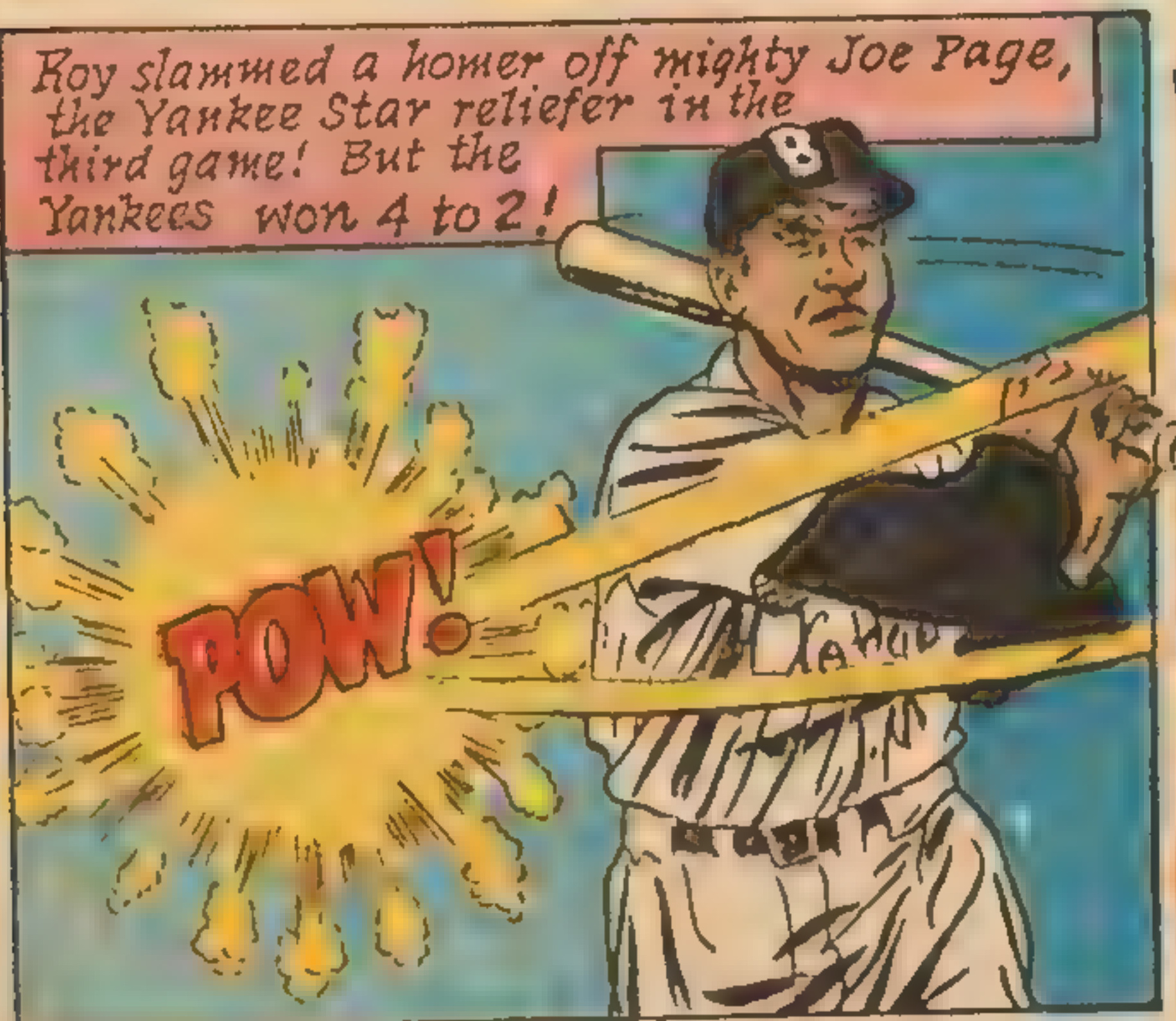
*Big Don fanned eleven, but in the ninth, Tommy Henrich's homer climaxed a thrilling 1-to-0 Yank victory!*



*Preacher Roe's masterful hurling blanked the Yanks, 1 to 0, in the second game!*



*Roy slammed a homer off mighty Joe Page, the Yankee Star reliefer in the third game! But the Yankees won 4 to 2!*



*The Yanks had Rizzuto on third and Henrich on second in the first inning of the fourth game when Roy snapped a throw to trap the Scooter!*





During the run-down, Rizzuto darted back to third, but with split-second magic, Roy flung the ball to Pee Wee, trapping Henrich off second!

I GOT YOU, TOMMY!

**OUT!**

Roy's clever play broke up the Yank rally, but the New Yorkers won, 6 to 4, and captured the title in the fifth game!

Afterward, Roy visited the Yankee Dressing Room!

CONGRATULATIONS, DIMAG! SWELL WORK, PAGE!

YOU MADE IT TOUGH FOR US, ROY!

YOU'RE THE BEST CATCHER I'VE SEEN, CAMPY!

HERE'S CAMPY!

SIGN MY BOOK, ROY!

TOO BAD YOU DIDN'T BEAT THE YANKS, ROY!

THESE ARE THE FANS I LOVE THE BEST, RUTH!

That evening...

AND I TOLD ROY NOT TO PLAY BALL!

I WANT SOME!

YOU'RE TOO BIG TO SPANK NOW, ROY. HA HA!

A few days later...

CHEEZE IT! THE COPS!

EVERY GROWING BOY NEEDS A PLAYGROUND, A PARK, A GYMNASIUM!

Recalling his own kid days, Roy teamed with Jackie Robinson at the YMCA to instruct the sports hungry boys of Harlem!

IS THIS THE WAY, JACKIE?

GEE, NOW I CAN'T GET HURT, ROY.

**YMCA**

And thus Roy Campanella, baseball hero of many lands, has found his destiny... to teach fair play and the art of baseball--the game he loves best--to the underprivileged boys of the slums! His career is a saga of American sports, the rise of a Negro youth to enduring fame in the hearts of millions!



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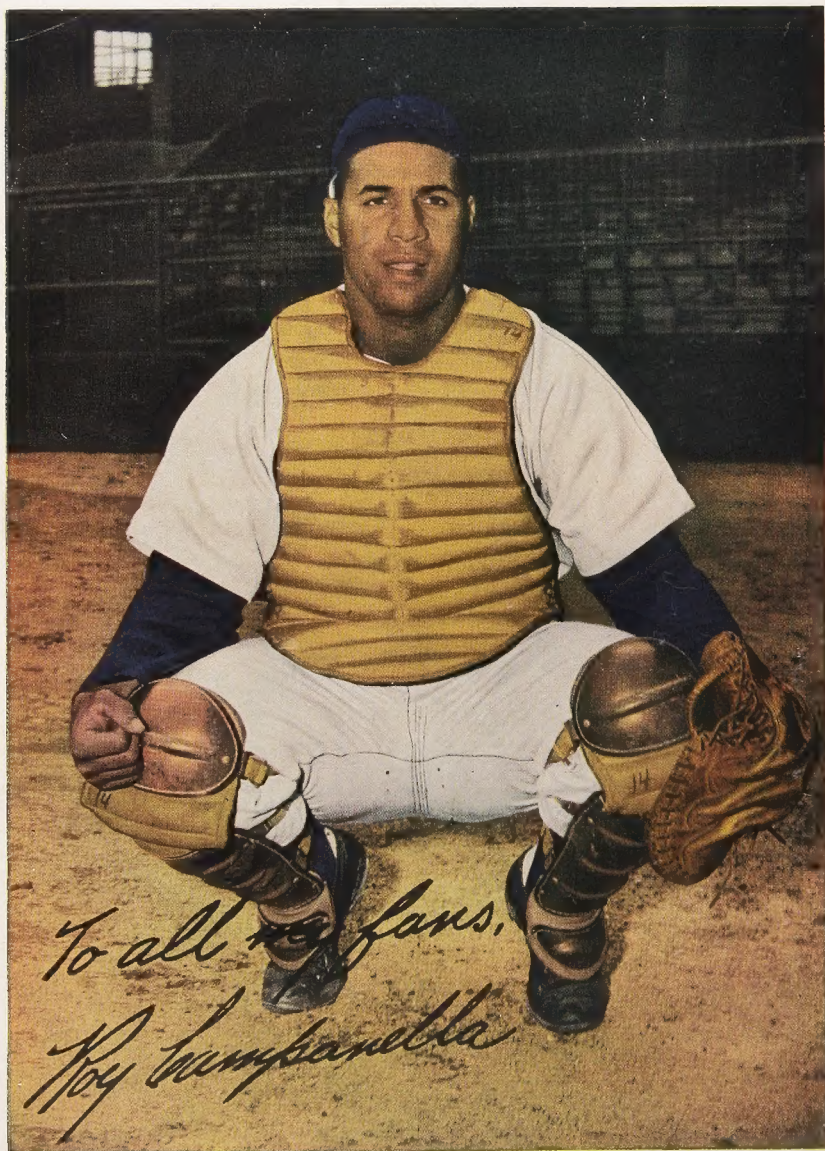
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To all my fans,  
Roy Campanella



FEBRUARY 19, 2016

# ROY CAMPANELLA

BASEBALL HERO

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THE  
LIFE STORY OF  
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